



[H.I.S.] * He I Savior, Acts 4:12

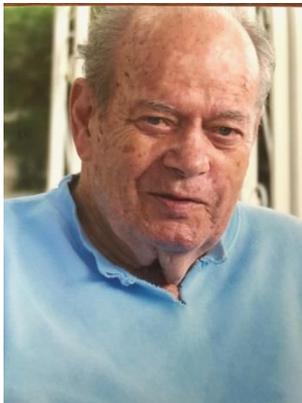
Nov. 3rd, 2019

HIS Ministries November 2019 Newsletter, Covering October 2019

I had *Vertebroplasty/Kyphoplasty* (a surgical procedure on my lower back) on the 28th of October to fix fractures in two vertebrae. I was told that healing after this procedure is fast, but it has not happened yet. The Doctor who performed this procedure told Dennis and I that looking at the MRI imaging he thinks that there is a 3rd fracture that was not identified as such before. He wants to have x-rays taken of my back on the 11th of November to determine what else needs to be done. My severe back pain has persisted now over 4 months.

Our concern is that there are many medical expenses that Medicare (our health insurance) does not cover. We know that God knows what is taking place and we are asking your prayers and His provision and also direction for us and for doctors during these difficult times.

I can identify with Paul's "*thorn in flesh*" problem that he had pleaded with the Lord to remove, but He didn't and said, "*My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.*" (2 Cor. 12:7-9). I read this to mean that some of our physical ailments may even be necessary for us to experience in order to acknowledge that if we just depend on the Lord and His strength, He takes us through and enables us to do what He has prepared for us to do. (Eph. 2:10.) We praise the Lord that this illness/pain has not stopped my work, though at times I have had to take some additional breaks. We have only had to postpone some *out-of-town* invitations to share about our ministry work, for traveling with my back pain has not been possible - so far. We hope that before the holidays I am well enough to travel to Cedaredge, Colorado, to meet our old friends at the First Baptist Church there. That little church has been faithful to us, praying for us for nearly 30 years. It will be a blessing to see them and share with them again in person.



OUR DEAR FRIEND, MAX STEWART, WAS BORN ON MARCH 8, 1929.

26TH OF OCTOBER, 2019, HE LEFT THIS EARTH TO BE WITH THE LORD FOREVER and also with his wife Pat and Kathy, his daughter-in-law, and a great granddaughter Cici who have already gone to the Lord's Mansion, and were there waiting for him.

When Max, who had always loved fishing, met the Lord Jesus of the Bible 37 years ago, he became an instant "*fisher of men*". (See his story on our website: www.hismin.com/53-years-with-the-wrong-Jesus.)

Max and his wife Pat and their family have been our dearest friends for about 40 years. Our friendship and relationship with the Stewart-family really began when Dennis and I shared with Max and Pat (in the early 1980's) the Lord Jesus of the Bible. We too, like Max and Pat, had believed in and worshipped "*a wrong Jesus*" (Jesus of the Mormon Church) but now, as born again believers, we know and worship the true Jesus of the Bible *who is God with us*. Max and his lovely wife, Pat, were the very first persons in Vernal, Utah, whom we told about our life-changing story, and they

were the very first "*converts*" out of Mormonism *we had the pleasure to share with the Story of Jesus, who is God*. We became a family *for now we were connected by the Spirit of God* and as everyone in their family also received the Lord they too became part of the family of God. Sadly many of our blood-relations can be just temporary, "*here and now*" on earth, unless they also are *born of the Spirit* that will make our relationships eternal. We all need to be as Max was, "*a fisher of men*", and help as many of our relatives as possible to join God's family by a new birth. Dennis is going to miss his weekly phone conversations with Max that were full of laughter and precious memories that we all shared with a sure knowledge of it continuing as we meet again at the coming of the Lord (1 Thess. 4:13-18) and so shall we always be together with Him.

Friendship like we have had with all the Stewarts is eternal.

Winter is on its way, if you have not noticed! We have snow covered Mountain Tops here in Utah, and skiers are excited – there will be about 6 months of fun *playing in the snow*, before we can switch to “*spring and summer camping season*”, which is more like it for Dennis and I.

October is a “dark month” in more ways than one – it is dark because days are shorter, flowers are gone, and no snow yet in the valleys to brighten and lighten the days. October is also spiritually gloomy because, at least here in Utah, dark powers seem to take over the lives and activities of people in preparation for *Halloween*, which is the devil’s holiday, and evil in all imaginable forms is boldly displayed. Utah is said to have *the least number of evangelical Christians in the entire nation*. The major religion here is LDS and Utah is, by them, called *Zion*.

US News reported that Salt Lake City was ranked as “*gayest city*” per capita in the USA, Orlando, Fla is #2 and Cambridge, Mass, is #3, but surprisingly San Francisco was only 18th! Statistics also show that Utah leads the nation in “*internet porn use*” and also leads in *prevalence and seriousness of depression* and for that reason alone is at the top of the 50 states in anti-depressant use. Mormons love to sing, “*all is well, all is well*”, but as we can see, *all is not well in Zion*. - News media reports that Utah spends over a billion dollars for the celebration of Halloween!

Houses are decorated with skulls and bones, witches and warlocks, demons and ghosts – some even add tombstones on their front lawns with *screaming recordings playing as if coming from the tombs to frighten the passerby’s*.

Utah, among all 50 states, is the leading state on this focus of scary images and focus on the dead! This must be because Utah is “the Mormon State” and the Mormon Church and its sacred doctrines are focused on the dead. Their most holy places are their temples, and they are specifically built “so that living may communicate with the dead”, as LDS apostle Parley P. Pratt preached. Mormons doing their “temple-work” are said to be “acting as mediums through which the living can hear from the dead”. (Journal of Discourses, vol. 2:44-46.)

Every year Christians, especially children, are put under “*social pressure*” to participate in the celebration of *Halloween*. Many Christian churches try to arrange something that will “*compete*” with this day by having “*harvest festivals*” or something similar to a fall-celebration so that Christian children do not feel “*left out of all the fun*” other children may seem to be having. Children are exposed to Halloween at schools and they are urged to participate and dress up in various costumes, most of them depicting something from the occult, evil or frightening. Many Christians see this as “*harmless fun*” and do not oppose it. However, participating in activities of this devil’s holiday is not harmless for *it can be an entry into the occult*. Halloween puts the *focus on the enemy of our souls* and he loves it. Let’s not forget that this is a pagan holiday, having its beginnings with ancient *Druids’ day of the dead* when Celtic priests made their appearances as wizards or magicians.

Believers in the Lord Jesus, who is the God of the living, should have nothing to do with the “work for the dead” or the celebration of Halloween. The Bible calls that “necromancy” and God sternly forbids that, and calls it an abomination in His sight. [Deut. 18:10-12 lists necromancy and other occult practices something that must not have a part in any of His people’s lives.] The Druids day of the dead – is thoroughly pagan and its emphasis is the glorification of Satan, demons and death. It is deception all the way through.

Anonymous Mormon-question: “What about those who have never heard the gospel or about Jesus Christ? How do they get saved? What can you as Christians say? Nothing at all!!! But the Mormon Church has an answer to this: work for the dead. If they do not hear the gospel during this life, Mormons who have died, will preach them the LDS gospel in the spirit world, and if they accept it there, we will do their genealogy and temple work. We get them baptized, endowed and sealed in our temples and they can become gods and goddesses along with us. Isn’t the Mormon plan the best!”

My reply: It is indeed a Mormon plan, but it is not the plan of God of the Bible, who said: “It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.” (Hebr. 9:27.) After death all mankind is faced with judgment that takes them either to heaven or to hell. There is no second chance!! Jesus explained the impossibility of doing “missionary work” after death in the spirit world (as Mormons say they do). Jesus gave an example of two men who had died. One was a beggar named Lazarus, who was a believer in the God of Abraham, the other one was a rich man, and an unbeliever. Jesus told this story and said, “*And it came to pass, that the beggar died and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus ... But Abraham said... between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot: neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence...[and the rich man cried] send Lazarus*

to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets [scriptures]; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." (Read the entire story from Luke 16:19-31.) **That "fixed great gulf" makes missionary work "in the spirit world" impossible. They cannot pass from one side to another! "Today is the day of salvation" – after death it is not possible to be saved. The Mormon plan is not the best!!** However, God has made it possible for all to be saved here and now, while living. God has said that He would that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9) He sent His Only Son to make sure that all who would receive Him will become His children. (John 1:12; 3:16; Romans 5:8; 10:9-10.) Romans 1:19-23 tells us that God has made Himself known to all mankind at least in two ways, even if the gospel is not yet presented to them. **There are two witnesses or evidences for the existence of God available to all people everywhere. One is the objective witness of creation. The other is the subjective witness of conscience.** God, through man's conscience (mind), speaks to a man who marvels upon nature and by observing God's creation sees that there must be a God. **If man responds to his conscience and cries,** "God, I want to know You, I need to know You. I do believe that You exist." That is faith, and he then goes from faith to faith as he steps into the light of God until he comes to the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe that there has never been a person, a man or a woman, who ever lived on the face of this earth, who died without some opportunity to come to know and receive Christ, had they acted and lived up to the light God gave them. **God says that if we seek Him, we will find Him.** (Jer. 29:11-13; Isa. 11:10; Matt. 7:7; Acts 17:27; Hebr. 11:6.) As to your statement of *becoming gods and goddesses* – it is the lie of Lucifer. **Men will not become gods.** That was the first lie of Satan presented in the Garden of Eden. God of the Bible is the Only God - anywhere. He said, **"...before Me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after Me."** (Isa. 43:10; 44:6, 8.) **When we receive Jesus, who is God with us, we receive forgiveness of our sins and God's Holy Spirit and we become children of God and will live in heaven with Him forever.** (Matt. 1:23; John 1:12; 8:24; Rom. 9:8.)

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We were presented an interesting question to think about and give our thoughts about:

Which is worse, to be insulted, embarrassed or deceived?

Reply: When comparing these three, the first two you will be aware of immediately, but people who have been deceived may never know unless they are confronted with the truth. **Many go to their graves deceived about life's most important question – "What must I do to be saved?"**(Acts 16:30.)

What is your source of truth? Will your source protect you from the schemes of the Devil, whose servants may disguise themselves even as apostles of Christ? (2 Cor. 11:13-15.) **There is only one source of truth that is absolutely trustworthy. That source is Jesus Christ, who is the personification of the truth of God, for He is God, the Word. "Thy Word is truth."** (John 14:6; 17:17.)

His Word is our only protection from **deception that will have eternal consequences.** Members of the Mormon Church have put their trust in their *"prophets and apostles"* believing and trusting that they teach what the Bible says, **but they do not!** We need to remind Mormons to do what the first century Christians did – **they examined the Old Testament Scriptures daily to see if what even apostle Paul taught them was true.** (Acts 17:11.) **The Scriptures, i.e. the entire Bible, is the standard for testing all teachings, and it must be used especially for testing all religious leaders, including those claiming to be "prophets and apostles", or "priesthood leaders" or Sunday School teachers.** If we are relying on our feelings and trusting these men and not using the **objective truth of God's Word** to inspect **subjective teachings of men**, we are making a serious, and potentially fatal, mistake. **The Bible reveals that man is saved not by what he does, but by believing in Jesus Christ and His gospel of grace.** (John 6:29; Acts 16:31; Eph. 1:13; 2:8-9.) **Any religion that teaches that salvation can be obtained by human efforts, is nullifying the grace of God. Grace is the only means that God saves sinners, which all people are.** (Romans 3:23; 6:23.) Paul compared **grace vs. works** in Romans 11:6, saying, **"if by grace, it is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace."** Many people blindly put their faith in their religious leaders, assuming that they would not deceive them. Paul gave a warning, saying that there will be **"grievous wolves"** that enter in to draw disciples after themselves. (Acts 20:29-30.) Some simply ignore God's Word and listen to teachers who say what they like to hear. (2 Tim. 4:2-4.) Then there are people who **"have a zeal of God, but not according to [biblical] knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the**

law of righteousness to everyone that believeth.” (Romans 10:1-4.) **It is by the grace of God that we are saved through our faith in Jesus Christ. That is not from our works – but it is the gift of God – so that no one can boast.** (See Eph. 2:8-9.) God of the Bible makes it clear – we will either spend eternity enduring God’s wrath – or in heaven in His loving presence. (John 3:36; 12:48.) Everyone who rejects Jesus and His Word and instead follows men, or opinions of men, will be condemned, but **“as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe in His name.”** (John 1:12; Rom. 8:1.) **To resolve this right now, if not done before, is to repent and trust in the Lord Jesus and His Word** rather than leaders who do not teach what the Bible clearly says. In this life we can be wrong about many things and still survive, but when this life is over (and it can be over at any time, even today), and **if you were wrong about Jesus Christ, God’s only provision for our sins,** you will pay for that mistake throughout all eternity. There is no second chance!

We thank Him even while we have sadness in our hearts for not everyone whom we love dearly is walking with our Lord, but we continue to pray that He will reach out where we cannot reach. We trust that He will bring all our loved ones to back us, and to Him.

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From a TBM letter (TBM= True believer in Mormonism):

“Out of the hundreds and even thousands of different organized religion in the world, why do you single out the Mormons? What makes them so different or special enough for you to devote you website to them and not any other religion? – I am just curious.”

Reply: If you had read our story from our website: www.hismin.com/About-us, you would have had your answer to your question **“WHY”**, but since you asked, I will tell you why:

We are both former Mormons and we have studied Mormonism for many decades. We know just about all what there is to know about the Mormon Church. The reason why we do not talk much about other religions is that we do not have that kind of knowledge of them as we do of Mormonism. I (Rauni) was a convert to Mormonism and my husband (Dennis) was a generational LDS (sixth generation). We both served full time missions for the Mormon Church. We were always active in the Church. We were married in the SLC temple, and we had devoted our lives to the service in the Church. I was also a full time translator and interpreter for the LDS Church over 14 years. My husband served about 10 years as an Elder’s Quorum President in wards we lived in as well as he was a Sunday school teacher and a Stake Clerk, and lastly many years he served as a Stake High Councilman.

We had discovered contradictions, cover-ups, doctrinal changes etc. etc. along the way that were disturbing to us. We decided to make again **a thorough and honest study of the history of the Church - from the very beginning.** **We were assured in our hearts that there could be no harm in investigating these matters, for if the Church is true and truthful in all things, then all will check out to confirm it, and if not, then we are free to move on with that knowledge.** And as they say, ***“the rest is history”***. To our disappointment and sorrow, we found Joseph Smith to be a false prophet, and Mormon doctrine of God, Jesus and salvation anti-biblical, etc. **We chose to follow the God of the Bible and commit our lives to Jesus Christ, who is God with us.** (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14; 8:23-24.) **He is the Truth, personified.** (John 14:6; 17:17.) We also learned that **He is not our spirit brother nor Lucifer’s brother from the pre-existence, but He is God, the Creator of all things.** (John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16.) **That is it in a nutshell. Having eternal life with true God and Jesus will not be possible if we do not know who God is,** just as Jesus said in John 17:3. Eternity is too long to be regretting that we did not know the truth, but had just been gullible and trusting our feelings without studying what we really were involved in. (1 Thess. 5:21; 1 John 4:1.) **God of the Bible commands that we study** (2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16; John 5:39; Acts 17:11) so that we can know the true doctrine and can help others who do not yet know. God requires that **all who have come to the knowledge of His truth will warn others who do not yet know.** (Ezekiel 33:7-9.) **We are responsible to God for warning, but not for what people do with our warning – decision is to be made by the persons who have been warned.** If you have any questions that you cannot find an answer for on our website, please write again.

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We would like to thank you for praying for us and for our little ministry, and your continued help to us and in the many ways you have done so that we can work in the field that the Lord has opened for us to labor in.

We often identify with Paul who had been zealous for his Jewish Religion and worked **against believers in true Christ** till the Lord opened his blinded eyes to see His Truth. (Acts 9:1-18.) That is similar to our story. Paul wrote, ***“Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the***

hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God... (2 Cor. 4:1-4)

We also received God's grace and mercy and were able to renounce hidden things of Mormonism we had been involved in. We say with Paul, "I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man: but I obtained mercy because I did it in ignorance." (1 Tim. 1:13.) We had also handled the Word of God wrongly as is taught and done in the LDS Church. After the Lord shook us up as He did Paul, He made us aware that our lives inside this false religion was not a wasted time after all as we had at first lamented, but part of God's plan for us (Rom. 8:28; Eph. 2:10.)

It had been our schooling, enabling us to assist others with the similar LDS background.

We are thankful that the Lord is keeping us busy and has enabled me to still do this *HIS Ministry* work, regardless of my back pain that has been constant for several months now. This work-load assures us that we are not done yet, but that He still wants us to continue in this work to help Mormons out of bondage and come to know Him personally and be saved.

We are encouraged as we continue to receive *thank you letters* and calls from people saying how much they appreciate that we have taken time to help them, instruct them and given them information that has given them courage to stand against family and friends (and in many cases even against entire Mormon communities) to inform the LDS Church that they must remove their names from the LDS records for they now belong to the real God of the Bible. Just last week our new friend in Christ, Mary Ann wrote, "I want you to know how very much I have appreciated all you have done and continue to do to spread the true word of Jesus... I had my membership records (from the LDS Church) removed earlier this year as my birthday gift to myself..." ☺

We are asking you to pray for our friends in Australia, who are sharing the true Jesus with their past Mormon friends. Please ask that the Lord will bless Dale, Sharon, Al, Sandy, Dave, Tom, Mary, Dave, Cynthia, Andrea, Scott, Aira, Tracy, Britney, Dwayne, Heber and Judy in their various needs, known to Him. (1 John 5:14-15.)

Thanksgiving is coming very soon! Let us give thanks to our Lord for His goodness and mercy and for His love that surrounds us every day and is fresh every morning. Let us thank Him for our daily bread and our health (or even lack of it) and all that we experience in our lives now, and eternal life we know we will have after this life. (1 John 5:13.) We thank Him for all that we can do to glorify His name and reach out in love to those who may be the last ones holding us here and why He is tarrying His coming. (Rom. 11:25.) We thank Him even while we have sadness in our hearts for not everyone whom we love dearly is walking with our Lord, but we continue to pray that He will reach out to those whom we have not been able to reach. We trust that He will bring all our loved ones back us, and to Him.

Wishing you and yours a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!

With the Love of Jesus Christ,

Rauni & Dennis Higley

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Something to think about: "If you lack knowledge, study! (2 Tim. 2:15.) If you lack wisdom, get on your knees and ask God. (James 1:5.) Note that knowledge is not same as wisdom. Wisdom is the proper use of knowledge you have gained by studying God's Word."

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