



September 1, 2023

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

## HIS Ministries' September 2023 Newsletter, covering August 2023

We are looking forward to cooler fall-weather after a very hot summer. **It will come!** We have stayed home without taking any camping time in our little trailer that without an Air Conditioner it is not comfortable to be in it when temperatures have been from 90 to 110 degrees. Diesel prices going higher per month has also limited our plans to travel. [We thank you, Ed, for offering to help in our diesel-costs if and when we go. ☺] Perhaps we still could go away for a week or so this month, while remembering **the Fall Feasts of Israel. The Feast of Trumpets** (Lev. 23:24), **Rosh Hashanah**, begins on *the first day of Tishri* (15-17 of September). It prophetically represents the preparation of Israel for a national repentance and acceptance of Messiah. [That is going to happen at the end of the 7-year Tribulation when armies of the Antichrist will attack Jerusalem. At that time Israel will be prepared to turn to *Jesus as her Messiah* and experience national salvation.] (To better understand the prophetic importance of the Fall Feasts, read Zechariah, chapters 12, 13 and 14.) **The Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur** (Lev. 23:26-32), is on *the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Tishri*, (24-25 of September), representing salvation of the nation of Israel when they, at the close of the 7-year Tribulation period, will come to recognize that Jesus is their Messiah who had atoned their sins on the cross of Calvary, 2000 years ago. (Joel 2:32; Matt. 23:39; 24:30-31.)

We are now effectually living on **the end times** that the Bible tells about more in detail in *the Book of Revelation*, Chapters 4-19. Keeping our eyes on Israel, we can see **what time it is on God's clock**. [The Bible is "**history, written in advance**"; messages from God who alone knows "**the end from the beginning**", i.e. before it takes place.] The Bible, both Old and the New Testaments, were written by Jews, therefore the focus is always on **Israel, God's nation**. The Bible, all of it, is God's message to people who believe in Him. **If we study the history of the world in the light of the Bible**, we can see that God has always foretold and warned before these difficult things have taken place. Likewise, from His Word we can know now what will happen next.

Israel became a nation again (May 14, 1948), and God has been calling His people to come back to **their own land** (Ez. 36:24). **They have come and are continuing to come, but in unbelief, which will be in preparation for God's judgement, that will take place during the Great Tribulation** (Jer. 30: 3-9; Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24). The prophet Ezekiel predicted this gathering (Ez. 20:34-38) that will, at the end time, bring a war (Ez. 38 and 39) led by **Gog** (Russia), **joined by major enemies of Israel as Iran (Persia), Libya, Syria, Ethiopia and others**. It seems that preparations for this war are already under way. This "**Ezekiel-war**" will continue in *the Great Tribulation* (Rev. 4-19), but there is one major thing that will take place before the 7-year Tribulation begins; that is **the Rapture of the Church**, which includes all born-again-believers in Jesus Christ. [This is not His Second Coming; that will take place after the Tribulation is over. (Rev. 19:11-16]

**In the Rapture the Lord Jesus does not come to the earth, but He appears in the air** (Titus 2:13), **coming in the clouds, fulfilling His promise He gave to His own**. "*Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, you may be also.*" (John 14:1-3.)

*The Rapture* will take place just as it is recorded in 1 Thess. 4:16-18. "**The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.**" Apostle Paul tells what also happens in the Rapture, "*Behold, I tell 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 trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” (1 Cor. 15:51-53.)*

**There is only one “*must do*” for everyone who wants to be part of the coming Rapture and go to heaven after this earthly life is over. Therefore Jesus said, “*YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN.*” (See John 3:3, 7.)**

Nicodemus, a Pharisee and teacher in Israel, couldn't understand it, and he asked, “*How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter into his mother's womb and be born? Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly I say to you, unless one is born of water (mother's womb) and Spirit (the new birth) he cannot enter the kingdom of God’... do not marvel that I said to you, ‘you must be born again.’*” Everyone knows that we can be born physically only once. *That birth* is a birth from the water in our mother's womb. It can happen only once. The Word of God tells that likewise *there can be only one Spirit birth*, and it comes to those who desire salvation and ask God to *become a child of God*. (John 1:12.) **This new birth becomes possible when we learn who Jesus Christ is, God in the flesh (John 1:1), and by believing in Him, we repent and ask to receive Him to our heart and life. “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation.” (Romans 10:9-10.) “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13.) Jesus had also said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, has everlasting life.” (John 6:47.) “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16.) By believing in Jesus and receiving Him we instantly become a child of God (John 1:12) and be a part of the Church, the Bride of Christ. (Col. 1:18, 24; 2:9.) As we already quoted what Jesus had said to Nicodemus - that “*you must be born again to enter the kingdom of God*”, you need to know also that it is the only requirement for going to heaven and to become a child of God! Even though many may say that they have heard and know a lot about Jesus, but if they have not repented and asked Him into their heart”, they are not His children, but “*children of the flesh, and they are not children of God.*” (Rom. 9:8.)**

No one knows how much time we might have left to make a change to our eternal future. Why not go to Jesus now and ask His forgiveness of your sin? Salvation is free as God has promised! (See Ephesians 2:8-9.)

**When you pray, make sure that you are praying to the true Jesus who is God who became a man (John 1:1) and not “*another Jesus*”. (See 2 Cor. 11:4, 13-15.) Jesus Himself said that unless you know and believe that He is God, you will not be forgiven – for only God can forgive sins. (John 8:24; Mark 2:7b.)**

I was inspired by COMPASS International's pamphlet, “*MILLIONS MISSING, Instructions for those who are left behind*”, a pamphlet, we received by mail about a week ago. What it talked about *may just happen and even at any day now!* Since Dennis and I have been *born again* a long time ago, we expect to be part of the Rapture, thus **we will not be here to get the news about the Millions who, all of a sudden, are missing.**

Therefore I contacted Bill Perkins at *Compass International* asking if he would permit me to quote from that pamphlet. He gave me a permission to do so and even include this pamphlet to our newsletter, but my old computer did not cooperate, and anyway my newsletter would have become way too long if I was to try to do that. However, I am permitted to quote phrases and thoughts from it. [Thank you, Bill.]

Thinking about this, I was imagining and supposing how *the news about millions missing* would affect even many in our family and among our friends who know what we believe, but have not, so far, been interested to secure their eternal life in the Lord Jesus. They would see that we are missing too! **What will they say?** Most people perhaps would just ask, **Where did they all go?** Some may say that maybe there are “*aliens*” in UFOs that came to get them, for these type of Christians were people who were against what would be progressive ways to lead the world...? Some may say that they recall hearing from some Christians they knew that *Jesus will come and rescue His people before the Great Tribulation, and “from the wrath to come”*, referring to 1 Thess. 1:10 and 5:9. Some may think and ask: *What if it all was true what they have said about the Rapture, and that after it takes place, then it is too late to even want to believe?* They may also ask: *Are we now in the*

*Tribulation talked about in Matthew's gospel, 24? Some may wonder and ask if there may still be hope for they also have heard that in the Bible (the Revelation Chapter 7), it tells about 144 thousand Jewish evangelicals who will come and preach the Christian gospel. But would they, being Jews, do that?*

There will be lots of question, and lots of regrets. But are those "Christians" who will be left behind, then ready to take others to the Scriptures and help them to see the biblical truth they themselves did not fully believe? There will be perhaps millions who have attended some Christian churches and assumed that they are Christians because of their association, but now they see that *they have been left behind after the Rapture. Why, they ask?* Obvious answer to that is that *they had not taken Jesus and His born again-teaching seriously.* But now they perhaps can remember hearing about all that and are perhaps able to figure out what they can do to *change their wrongs, and come to believe the absolute Truth about God, Jesus and salvation! God's message was and is that He gave His Only Son to us, and that He died to pay for the sins of all who repent and come to Him in faith.* (John 11:25; Acts 2:21.)

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#### **From our mailbox:**

We received a letter from Thomas, a Christian Veteran from Minnesota, who has been writing to us many times over the years, lamenting about his only son who had joined the Mormon Church after falling in love with a Mormon girl. Thomas had again, just last month, gone to visit his son and his grandchildren on the West Coast. This time he had been looking at some older pictures with his grandchildren who were asking *why grandpa was so sad.* [His wife of more than 50 years, who had died a few years ago, was of course a reason for his sadness, but his continuing sorrow is that his son and his family all are deeply in Mormonism that he knows is a non-Christian religion.] He wrote to us that when his son got married, they, his parents, were not allowed to attend the wedding because it was held at the Mormon Temple, and *non-Mormons are not worthy* to go to their temples. He now asked us an explanation why are they not considered "worthy". We have talked about temples etc. with him in the past, but not about the marriage rituals in detail. We say now to him that he needs to consider it best that they could not attend, for they, as a Bible believing Christians, could not have handled the Mormon temple wedding ritual well.

I will here quote directly from the Temple Marriage ceremony where **an officiator** (called a **Sealer**) announces "blessings" to the couple being married there "**for time and all eternity**", and he says... **I seal upon you the blessings of kingdoms, thrones, principalities, powers, dominions, and exaltations** (=godhood) **together with all blessings appertaining unto the New and Everlasting Covenant, I seal upon you by the virtue of the Holy Priesthood...**" (i.e. the Mormon priesthood)

**Please notice that these kingdoms, thrones, principalities, powers, dominions are not "blessings" but curses, (Eph. 6:11 calls them the wiles of the devil.) God's Word, the Bible, warns against demonic forces (Ephesians 6:12 and elsewhere) and tells that we are not wrestling against just "**flesh and blood**", i.e. people, but **we are to wrestle against principalities, powers and dominions, etc. for they are not of God, but from the devil.****

Note that Mormon couples are "**sealed**" in a temple for **exaltation**, which means **godhood**. "**The New and Everlasting Covenant**" (D&C 132:1-4 means polygamy), "**for time and all eternity**" means **men becoming gods in eternity**, and they must be obedient to **all Mormon teachings, the Mormon-gospel and its laws and ordinances**. I hope that you will not allow knowing this to frustrate you for there is nothing that can be done about that **unless your son comes to understand that Mormonism is false, the Bible is True and that The Triune God of the Bible is real, and that He loves your son and his family.** Our most powerful tool against the Devil is PRAYER. We ask and pray with you that your son will open his eyes, ears and heart to Jesus of the Bible and forsakes falsehood and brings his whole family out of Mormonism.

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Bill Gates said has, "**There are 7 billion people who need vaccination now.**" To which Dr. Zelenko responded, "**Why would I agree to take a vaccination for my health from someone who is financing vaccinations and advocating reduction of human population?**"

**"We live in a time that where intelligent people are silenced so that stupid people will not be offended."** ☺

We want to thank you, our friends and partners for praying for us and some of you even supporting us in the Lord's ministry that He has called us to work in. We are praising our Lord daily for His provision for also our personal needs and that Dennis is still able to work in his carpentry job as needed. The Lord has blessed us with reasonably good health, and though we have had some problems that expectedly come with years, they have not been serious enough to slow us much. ☺ God really has been good to us during all these many years.

We ask you to pray with us for the precious people we have had a blessing to present the gospel to during these last few months and that they would have courage to act on their new faith in Christ. Some of them have already experienced harsh opposition from their LDS friends and also from their family that are not seeing the importance of this change in their lives. We know that God will bless them as we all continue to pray for them!

Please pray for Pastor Phil Foard's wife, Lois, who after her serious back surgery, still has considerable pain. We continue asking prayer for our dear friend, Judy, who has a lot of pain in her broken ankle. Prayer is needed also for Marlene, Bruce, Mark & Virve, Dave B., Al and Sandy, Jamie, Luke, McKenzie, Aira, Heber, Sharon, Lisa and Suzi. We rely in the promises that our Lord has given to us in 1 John 5:14-15. He does hear and answer us as we pray according to His will.

We ask that you will continue to pray with us for those who have not yet responded to the Lord's call for them to be saved. Some of them are members of our family and some are our old Mormon friends we love dearly. It saddens our hearts that we will not see any of them after our life here is over unless they come to the Lord and are saved.

*"...God our Savior desires that all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."* (1 Tim. 2:3-5.) The Lord is pleading that they would repent and let Him change their hearts and minds while there is still time. *"...times of ignorance God [has] overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent."* (Acts 17:30.)

We hope that you will have some vacation time left and can rest before the summer is over. The fall actually is our favorite time of the year to enjoy the colors that brighten the hills, and have cooler air to go for walks that we had to miss because of the heat; over 100 degrees during the most of July and also August. Nevertheless we love the changing seasons, hot or cold, we experience in Utah. ☺

God bless you abundantly.

With the Love of Jesus,  
Rauni & Dennis Higley

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