



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

May, 2024

His Ministries May Newsletter, covering April, 2024

1st of May brings back memories of the celebration of spring in Finland. There it is called “*Vapunpaiva*” (May-Day) and is celebrated as a day of hope of summer and sunshine, and taking away the gloominess of cold and dark winter months. My childhood home was up-North, above the Arctic Circle where sun is not seen during a couple of the winter months, but during the summer it is the opposite: Up there the sun does not go down at all for a couple of months. May-Day, marks the beginning of summer, and it is indeed something to rejoice in. ☺

Being in Finland during *May-Day and the summer months* is heavenly. (Our last trip to Finland was 10 years ago.)

Dennis loves Finland just about as much as I do, and we would be happy if we could move there permanently... ASAP.

We can dream on (can we not?) how that will happen. **After all, the Bible tells us that the Lord Jesus will come back** (perhaps very soon) as ***the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, ruling the world from Jerusalem, Israel.***

We are living in “*the last days*”, are we not? And when He comes (as the Scriptures tell), **He will establish His *Thousand year reign, His Kingdom* here on earth. He will need representatives (*ambassadors*) for His Kingdom from every country!** As soon as it takes place, we will immediately put ***our application for ambassadorship of Finland with His approval.*** ☺ (As you see, we take the Bible literally!)

The Bible tells us about the past (proven history) and also of our present and the future.

Shortly after we had learned that we have been seriously deceived by the false teachings of Mormonism, and had thus put our eternity in grave danger, *Dennis said that we should never have left Finland, we should have gotten married there, and then we would already have our eternal future settled.* ☺

Let's look back and see what we actually had done: We were married in the Salt Lake Temple soon after our LDS missions in Finland had ended. ***Our life was all of Mormonism.*** Our main purpose in life was to do “*saving temple work*” for Rauni's dead relatives, who, we believed, would not be saved without the *work for the dead* – (for that belief was what had converted her to Mormonism, as (D&C 128:15 teaches.) We did hundreds of endowments and sealings for the dead, and were continuing in full LDS activity till the early 1980's, when serious questions about the truthfulness of the most important of Mormonism's doctrinal teachings (temples and the reasons for them) became challenged. We found that all temple ordinances Joseph Smith had introduced to the faithful LDS had been taken from Freemasonry and had not come from the God of the Bible. We made a decision to check and *test all things, compare all Mormon doctrinal teaching to the Bible*, to make sure if they were true. **As we studied, compared and learned the truth, we had no other choice but to separate ourselves from the LDS Church for we had come to know the only true God and Jesus Christ, whom He had sent.”** (John 17:3.) **There is no salvation in any other!** From then on we have been earnestly and systematically studying the Bible, *book by book, verse by verse*, seeking to understand what God was saying to us through His Holy Word. *And as we had tested Mormon doctrines against the God's Word, we had found that what we were taught and what we had sincerely believed, was not true at all.*

We were devastated and guilt-ridden for as Mormon missionaries we had been teaching falsehoods and heresies as truth, influencing many in Finland into accepting *another Jesus and another gospel*. The Spirit of God opened our minds and heart to see all that, and **He showed us that we had to repent, ask God's forgiveness and go back to Finland and let people there know the truth and tell them that we are no longer followers of Joseph Smith's religion, and that we have become evangelical Christians. We needed to let them know that the truth is found only in the Bible, the Word of God, and not in any other Scripture.**

We made a plan to go to Finland, and there to each city where we both had served as Mormon missionaries and let them know that we were sorry for having misguided them **for we had been ignorant of the truth**. We wanted them all to know that there is hope for them as there was a new life for us too - and that it is found only in the Jesus of the Bible.

We didn't know how we were going to accomplish that, but we trusted that as we are willing to follow Jesus, God will lead and show us. When planning our trip, we were encouraged by our Christian pastor, Herb Stoneman, in Vernal, Utah, who said, *"just go and let God lead you."* We indeed had to just do that for we had no way to do it on our own power or by our means – for we had none! We started to plan for a one month trip. I was going to go first and see *if anything opens up for us*, and Dennis was to come a week later. When I got to Helsinki and found a hotel to stay in, I sat down and in wonderment said out loud, *"Lord, here I am, what am I to do now?"* There was a large phone book on the table, I opened it and looked under *the Lutheran Church...* I saw tens of pages of names and phone numbers. *Which number should I call?* I had no idea. I didn't know any of those hundreds of names I saw. I had to rely on the Lord... Since it was summer and vacation time for many, I began to wonder if I could find anyone at all to talk to. Finally I just picked a number at random and dialed... I introduced myself to a pastor who answered the phone and I started to tell my story... how some 20 years before I had converted to Mormonism in Oulu, Finland... I told him that I was soon called to serve as a missionary for the Mormons Church here... after my mission, I moved to Utah, USA, *"to live among Mormons"*, for I didn't have any family here for I had been an only child, and my parents and grandparents were dead. The Mormon leaders had told me that my responsibility was to save my dead relatives by doing *"work for the dead"* in a Mormon temple, *for the Mormon Church was the only way to salvation for both living and the dead*. I continued with my story saying that after these many years of being actively involved in the Mormon Church, we both, my husband and I, after in-depth Bible studies, discovered that Mormonism is a cult, a *counterfeit Christian* religion. We both came to faith in the biblical Jesus, and we are now *born again Christians*. *This is the reason why I am in Finland now...* to ask forgiveness for leading people astray and into Mormonism. After I expressed to him why I had now come to Finland, he asked, ***"But how did you KNOW to call me?"*** I asked what did he mean by ***"KNOWING to call him"*** for I had no idea who he was. He told me that he had, just a little over a year before, helped a *Mormon couple out of Mormonism* and that he had even assisted them in writing their story of *how and why they left the Mormon Church*. (The name of their book is *"Paasin Irti Mormoneista"*, [interpreted: *How we were able to get away from Mormonism*].) [He added that their story was now published and available in book-stores.] ***I was totally amazed! My very first random call gave me all this information and more! This had to be from the Lord!*** He said, ***"Stay right where you are! I am coming to get you and take you to our offices to meet others here..."*** He also said that he was going to, at that very moment, call this former Mormon couple who live in Kuopio, in Eastern Finland, and let them know about me and why I now had come to Finland! -

[What happened after that was as ***if it all had been planned and arranged ahead of time– and I believe that it really was, even though we did not know about it.***] This pastor took me to meet several other Lutheran pastors on that very day and many of them said that they *"were not supposed to come to the office that day, for they were on vacation"*, adding that for ***some reason they had felt that they just had to drop by the office...*** [These many Lutheran pastors I met there said that they had had a deep interest in what I was presenting to them!] [I was able to share with them a lot of information that I had brought with me, including some videos and movies, as *"the God Makers"* and *"the Temple of the God Makers"* etc. to show and share]

These pastors started immediately to call and contact others who, they said, needed to also hear what I had to say. This pastor also called the office of Askel-Lehti, a *Finnish Christian magazine*, and an officer there he talked to said that *they will right away send a reporter to meet with me*. This was just the beginning of a month-long *"whirlwind of meetings and presentations"*, not only in Helsinki, but in many other cities also.

[When I met with the reporter from this Christian magazine, he lamented that their Editor in Chief, Olli Valtonen should be the one to interview me, but he was in Hungary now, attending in international Christian conferences there, and he was not due to come back for at least 2-3 weeks, and by then we may not be here any longer! ***But only two days later this reporter called and said that their Chief Editor had unexpectedly come back, and that he wanted to talk with me ASAP. When I met him, he said that he did not know why he had had a sudden urge to come back home now, even though it meant that he had to miss many important planned meetings there...He asked, "Could this have been from the Lord?"*** (Later we all agreed that this had to have been from the Lord!) During the next several days we

had several meetings, many hours each time – for he wanted to know “*all about Mormonism...*” After these long interviews with him I traveled to Kuopio to meet with Pentti and Terttu Forsell.

They were very excited and said that they would like to start “*a similar plan how to inform Mormons*” in Finland, using information we were sharing with them now. They also arranged meetings for me with various groups, including the *Finnish Secret Police* that had many questions about Mormonism *and its possible political interests in Finland...* Our time in Finland seemed to go way too fast.

When Dennis arrived, we together continued to meet with many pastors and other interested groups...

On our the last night there we looked at each other with tears, thinking that we had not accomplished what we had planned to do, *i.e. to go to each city where we had served as Mormon missionaries, and let them all know that Mormonism is a non-Christian counterfeit gospel, the Book of Mormon was not true, and that Joseph Smith was not a prophet of God... We really thought that we had failed to do what what we had planned and thought that we were coming here to do!*

Soon after we arrived back home, we received a call from our Finnish friend here in Salt Lake City (also a *former Mormon* now), who said that she had learned through some other Finnish Mormons in Utah that *the Mormon Church had called and assigned a devout Finnish Mormon* [whom we knew quite well and who lived in Mesa, Arizona], *to go to Finland a week before we were going there. This person had been told to visit the Mormon wards in every city where we had served our LDS missions and warn them not to speak to us, nor to let us in, saying to them that “Rauni and Dennis are coming to tell lies about the Mormon Church...”*

How did the LDS Church know that we were going to Finland, and where there we had planned to visit and why? I had only told one Finnish friend in SLC, who had just recently left the Mormon Church; telling her what our plans were. I only had told her about this and in Finnish, and only over the phone... *she said that she had not told anyone about this!*

We learned later that our phones had been bugged; and that is how they knew! Then we understood and thanked the Lord for changing our plans! If we had followed *our plans*, it would not have worked - they would not have received us! **BUT GOD... Our God is an amazing God!** He rearranged/changed our plans! We didn’t go to any of these cities we had planned to go! We ended up being too busy - our time did not allow that, but we did not know why!

Then we learned that we had not failed after all... It was just one month after our trip to Finland, that Askel-Lehti, the Finnish Christian magazine, published a 6-page article about Mormonism and how I, with my Mormon-husband, had come out of it, and back into biblical Christianity.

We later learned from Terttu Forsell that the word had spread among Mormons in Finland before we arrived there, saying that “*Dennis and Rauni are coming to tell that Mormonism is a false religion.*” They were told that “*if they or someone else is coming from America with this kind of information about Mormonism, do not to let them in nor talk with them, for they just are bringing lies.*” (Thus they would not have welcomed us because they had been warned about us!)

Terttu informed us that after the *Askel-magazine* had published *the 6-page article about our visit and our departure from Mormonism*, she said that “*just about every Finnish Mormon went and bought that magazine to see what we had to say about the Mormon Church! WOW!! God arranged this so that they “heard” what we had planned to tell them, but now they were reading it from Askel-Lehti, the Christian magazine!*

Perhaps even this Finnish Mormon who had come from Mesa, AZ to “*warn them*” had fueled their interests about what we might say about Mormonism? We praise God for His arrangement of these circumstances.

Some of you may have already, even some years ago, read or heard about how our “*repentance trip*” to Finland in 1984 had lead us to start our ministry to Mormons and direct them to study the Bible and find salvation in *Jesus who is God with us*. (John 1:1-3, 14.) We, through that experience, were assured that if we respond and answer God’s call, He will go with us, and be with us through it all.

Indeed, this trip and how God worked it all out, gave us a plan and an encouragement to start our information Ministry to Mormons, “*HIS Ministries International!*” Without this we may not have even started our ministry...

[God will give us what we are to do or say when needed, even things that we may not have even known before, just as Jesus promised. (John 14-16.)]

We know that when we were still *unbelievers*, we made many mistakes before we met the true Jesus, and thus we can relate with Paul, who wrote, ***“I thank Christ Jesus, our Lord, who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man, but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief...”*** (1 Tim. 1:12-17.)

We could tell of many other miraculous experiences we have had during our 40-year ministry that testified to us that God will lead and direct if we commit ourselves to His service.

Thus perhaps what took place in Sweden among Mormons during 2013 and after, that opened their minds also to ask questions and ***test all things if they are true by the Word of God?*** (1 Thess. 5:21.)

When the Helsinki Mormon temple was built years ago, IRR (Institute for Religious Research) asked me to translate some of *their (irrg.org) pamphlets on Mormonism* into Finnish, which I did, and they were made available to visitors during the Helsinki temple-opening. Some of them are still available and printable from their website, www.irr.org. (When on that site, *click for Finnish publications.*)

Question sent to us by an LDS person: *“Why do you call the Mormons Church a cult? We are not a cult, we are a Christian Church as even our name tells – ‘The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.’ We believe the same as all Christian churches do. We are the same!”*

Our answer: **The Mormon Church is not a Christian church!** While there are some differences between and among Christian churches and denominations, **true Christianity will always be united on the essential doctrines of the Christian faith** – particularly on the **message of salvation by grace alone through faith, apart from works, and the fundamental nature and identity of God, i.e. biblical doctrine of God in three Persons, Holy Trinity. This is not the God of the LDS Church.** The Mormon Church does not believe in the Triune God of the Bible (1 John 5:7), but in many gods. The Mormon Church teaches that salvation is not by grace alone through faith, but that it requires works, lots of them. Grace does not even apply *until a Mormon has first done all that he can do.* (2 Ne.25:23.) The Mormon Church also teaches, **contrary to the Bible, that Jesus is a created being, a spirit brother of angels and men from preexistence, and that Jesus was physically conceived by God the Father, who, to Mormons, is a resurrected exalted man.** (Mormon Doctrine, p 547.) Thus they deny that Jesus Christ is the eternal God in flesh – fully God and fully man. (John 1:1, 14; Matt. 1:23.) Any religion that *claims to be Christian* while denying one or more of these essential doctrines of Christianity is **called a cult**. Some may be offended by that word if they do not know what it really means. Mormons may be *good people doing good works*, but they have *departed from Christian faith by denying the sufficiency of the Bible and adding other books they also call scripture.* [They have added the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, Pearl of Great Price and words of their ‘living prophets’ etc.] **There are more differences that separate Mormonism from biblical Christianity**, but even just these earn Mormonism the name “cult”. It is not meant to be mean but it is a factual term, for the **Mormon Church itself**, from the start, **separated from Christianity by its non-biblical beliefs and teachings.** The Mormon Church itself classifies groups that were once part of them, but later separated from the mainstream LDS Church, calling them *a cult* (example, *“the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints”*).

From the Berean Call, June 2013, we read a good article, excerpted from *“Vengeance is Ours: The Church in Dominion”* by Albert James Dager.

We have been asked: *“Should we not in our multi-cultural nation accept all religions, and especially all who name the name of Jesus, as our brothers and sisters in Christ?”* He was saying that the very goal of Antichrist religion is to bring Christianity into unity with all religions. It is a call for *“Unity in diversity”*. *To come to that unity, all that is needed is for the Gospel to be diluted sufficiently to make it ineffective. Unity in diversity is the goal toward which the world’s religions are working, even among many church groups, with the purpose*

*of bringing about a “One World Religion” to join in fellowship with everyone who names Jesus as Lord, regardless of doctrine or who their “Jesus” really is. We have already seen many evangelical churches in Utah getting together with the Mormon Church in joint musical programs and mixed choirs during Easter and other religious holidays, etc. The blurring of doctrinal lines enough, disregarding of doctrine, and acceptance of everything that goes by the name “Christian” is necessary for the eventual unification of all religions. Identifying deceptions within the church is often stifled by many under the pretense that those who expose deceivers and erroneous doctrines are hindering unity. This tactic has discouraged many Christians from pointing out serious doctrinal errors for fear of being labeled judgmental. “Do not judge”, is a common unity-cry. Satan’s lies have found fertile ground among those who lack proper knowledge or willingness to protect the flock against deception. Some within the church have even accepted Satan’s lies that “men may become gods, or become like God”, and that “faith is a law that even non-believers can act on”, and that “we need to learn how to activate the spiritual laws upon which faith is based.” They even say that “God is bound by spiritual laws and that He must respond to anyone who acts on them”. (LDS D&C 82:10 is often used as reference and “proof” for that.) We hear even from non-LDS people that “Jesus is our ‘elder brother’ who mastered the spiritual laws of nature. He is our example.” Some of these teachings may even sound biblical when coming from those who know how to cleverly twist and use Christian terminology and gain the confidence of those with sincere faith, but who have little knowledge of the Bible. An errant interpretation may escape the attention of *an average Christian* and possibly deceive him into placing his trust where he ought not. [Albert Dager’s book can be ordered from the Berean Call.]*

A question from an LDS man who has written to us many times before: “I know that you and your husband are bent on showing that Mormonism is not true. You have spent a good part of your lives working of putting together information that will show that Mormons are wrong and that you are right. Don’t you understand that you are only changing one belief system for another? There is no rationality in any belief. And why is that? Because in order to experience God in your life you must let go of all belief systems and the doings that they demand. When this happens we are no longer part of the ‘story’, but are experiencing it differently. This is what I call ‘just being’. And a ‘being’ can be achieved by just letting go of beliefs, all of them. Just sit back and say to yourself, ‘nothing around me means anything’. Not my thoughts or beliefs or even what I am seeing with my eyes. It means that in order to experience God in your life, you must empty your mind of everything, let go of everything, especially your thoughts. Only when this happens can you experience God within you. You can continue to try to figure it all out. You can of course try to prove me wrong and if you can do that you will receive satisfaction of your ego. But this is not experiencing God within.”

Brief answer: Have you been dabbling in Hinduism? Your thoughts of “nothing-ism” sounds like Hinduism to me. However, we should not be seeking a “belief system” but the Lord God and His will. He has answered my prayers and He can answer yours too, if you ask. God is real and I can say that I *experience God* in my life, every day. We are not to ‘empty our minds or get rid of our thoughts’ as you suggest. That is a very dangerous thing to do. An empty mind is fertile ground for demonic spirits. (See Matt. 12:45.) I am not saying that I am absolutely correct in all things, but I am absolutely sure that the Bible is the Word of God and it is absolutely correct. There may be many issues that I may have not reached the correct understanding of, but as I keep studying, I am confident that I will come to that eventually. There are many things that I am absolutely sure of – one of them is that I know where I am going when this life is over. (1 John 5:13.) I know that I am going to live with Jesus forever. I am waiting for His coming. He is coming, perhaps soon. When Paul wrote about His coming, he asked all believers to *rejoice always and pray without ceasing and in everything giving thanks* – and comfort each other with these words (1Thess. 4:13-18). We need to *test all things carefully and cling to those things that we already know to be true.* (1 Thess. 5:16-24.) Please consider Paul’s advice from these verses above.

We are now less than 3 weeks from Pentecost (5/20/24). The Greek word "Pentecost" means FIFTY. The Birth of the Church took place 50 days after Resurrection Sunday, which was seven weeks after Passover. Pentecost is also a Greek name for the Old Testament feast of weeks, called harvest. It was then when Israel celebrated the giving of the law at Sinai. (Exodus 19:1-2; 23:16; 34:22; Deut. 16:10.)

Paul wrote about the importance for him to be in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 20:16) to celebrate it with other Jewish believers, for Pentecost was in his time mostly celebrated as an OT anniversary of the giving of the Torah, and they were reading the Pentateuch to honor the Law of Moses.

In Act 2:1 Luke reports Jesus' fulfilling His promise to send the Holy Spirit, which took place on *the Day of Pentecost* (Acts 1:8; John 14:16-17). From 33 A.D. onward, Pentecost has been celebrated mostly by Christians as *the birth of the Church*. However, *the Church* (as taught by Jesus, in Rev. 2-3), will come to an end *in the Rapture*.

Rev. 4 begins with Greek Word, *Meta tauta*, which means "after these things" (i.e. after the Church era). (See 1 Thess. 4:13-18.) The Great Tribulation (Matthew 24 and Revelation 4-19) will end at the Lord's Second coming. Then begins the *Millennial Kingdom* (Rev. 20:4.) After that come *the Great White Throne Judgment* (Rev. 20:11-15), and then *New Heaven and new earth*. (Rev.21.) **Come Lord Jesus. (Rev. 22:20.)**

We thank you for your prayers and for your support of our ministry. Your assistance, no matter how small, is helpful and gives us determination to continue our ministry-work we love. Dennis is still able to do his carpentry work that is necessary to cover for our personal needs, but he also takes time to work with me with the Newsletter and answering Mormon-questions and challenges. We have been very glad to hear that many of you share and pass on our newsletters to others who also like to help presenting the truth about the Gospel of Christ to their LDS friends.

Please pray for our dear Judy who continues to have a lot of pain in her foot that was broken a long time ago, but still is not without pain. She is a special soul and loved by all of us who know her.

Suzi had her hip replacement surgery 3 months ago and she has healed well from that very difficult surgery. However, she has now unexpected and difficult knee-replacement surgery ahead of her, as soon as next week, and hard physical therapy that follows. Suzi is amazing, brave and joyous woman, and we know that she will be fine even sooner than we think. Prayer is also needed for Marlene, Harold, Bruce, Mark & Virve, Al, Sandy, Julie, Jamie, Luke, McKenzie, Aira, Heber, Sam, Sharon, Roy, Robert, Lisa, Helen, Elina, Bailey, Connie, Wayne Ennis, Margaret and Mark Cowen in N. Ireland.

We trust and rely on the promises that our Lord has given to us in 1 John 5:14-15. **He hears and answers every prayer as we pray according to His will.**

We continue to pray for our friends and family members that they would desire to have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, for close relationship with Him would bring joy and peace to their lives as we too have received..

With the Love of Jesus while waiting for His Coming,

Rauni and Dennis

Email: hismin@xmission.com Phone: 801.943-5011

www.hismin.com/newsletters

[H.I.S. Ministries is IRS approved 501 © (3) Ministry. Your gifts to this ministry are 100% tax deductible. We give books, Bibles, CDs and DVDs, etc. free of any charge to all LDS people asking for them. We have, from the beginning, operated on belief that God will provide as we seek to do His will. We do not make appeals for financial help, although we operate our ministry primarily on freewill donations, trusting that the Lord will direct His own to give so that we will be able to do His work. We thank all of you who pray for us and partner with us in this ministry, and we ask God's blessings for you. Our Postal address is: 2890 E. Willow Bend Dr., Sandy, Utah, 84093. For your convenience we have also a PayPal account for donations on our website, www.hismin.com