



***HE IS SAVIOR, Acts 4:12**

February 7, 2025

HIS Ministries February 2025 Newsletter, covering January 2025

We often receive questions why we need to study the Old Testament since *all we need is Jesus*, and to know how we can be saved and after this life go to heaven. They insist that *“the plan of salvation” is not in the Old Testament, but is only declared in the New Testament! What would you say to that?* I’d say that without the Old Testament we would have no way of knowing or proving that the New Testament is true! We need them both, the entire Bible.

In the OT we read what God, through His prophets, had *written is going to happen* – *“history written in advance”*. In other words, the NT verifies what the OT had predicted, proving that what was prophesied really came true and had happened. ***“The New Testament is in the Old Testament concealed, and the Old Testament is in the New Testament revealed.”***

We are often asked if we know for sure who wrote the Bible! That question is answered in both the Old and the New Testaments. The Divine Author of the Old Testament is the Holy Spirit who moved Moses, Ezra, and Isaiah, Zechariah and other OT prophets to write under His guidance, revealing God and His will and His love for all the mankind. Apostle Peter reassured that God’s prophets did not add their own *private interpretations* into the Word they had received from God, but said, *“The holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”* (2 Pet. 1:20-21)

From the Old Testament we learn who God is, and how great is His love for us all.

“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; Eph. 2:8-9.)

The Hebrew word for God is Elohim. That word, Elohim, *is not the name of God*, but only indicates that there is a *plurality of Persons in One God* (i.e. *the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*)

“The Word became flesh.” (John 1:14.) Jesus said, ***“God is Spirit.”*** (John 4:24.) In Col. 2:9, we read, ***“In Him (Jesus) dwells all the fullness of Godhead bodily.”*** [It is possible because the Triune God by His nature is Spirit.]

God revealed His personal name (YHVH) to Moses (Exodus 6:3), and said, *“I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD (YHVH) was I not known to them.”*

[Since Mormons believe that there are multiple Gods in the Universe and three Gods they believe in, each of them having a separate name, Exodus 6:3 could help them to see that God they believe in is not the same God as is spoken of in **the Bible, the Word of God.**] The Jews confess daily (Deut. 6:4): ***“Hear O Israel, the LORD (our God, the LORD is one.”*** (Deut. 6:4.) ***“YHVH, our Elohim, is One YHVH”***. (See: Nehemiah 9:6.) **There is only One God and His name is YHVH.**

[When explaining to LDS persons **who God of the Bible** is, we must be aware that *Mormons do not believe in the Triune God of the Bible* (who is One God in three Persons), but instead they believe in three separate Gods who have separate names, (i.e. the name of their Father-God is Elohim and his son's name is Jehovah.) **Make note that in the Old Testament GOD is never referred to as Father, nor is Jehovah ever referred to as His son!** [Matt. 1:18, 23.] **In the New Testament God is called the Father of Jesus Christ, and He also becomes a Father to all born-again believers in Jesus Christ.** (John 1:12.)

[In our *June 2024* newsletter we wrote who is **the Triune God of the Bible**. It may be helpful when explaining to Mormons what the Bible teaches about God. You can find it from our website: www.hismin.com/newsletters. (Click to June 2024 newsletter, see pages 4-5.)

The last book in our Old Testament, the Book of Malachi, was completed in 397 B.C.

There had been 400 years of silence from God when Gabriel, an angel of God appeared to a priest, named Zacharias and when he saw him, he was troubled and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him 'Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John ...and he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and be filled with the Holy Spirit... he will turn many of the children of Israel to the LORD their God...' (See Luke 1:5-25.)

Five months after Gabriel had visited Zacharias, "God sent Gabriel to a city of Galilee named Nazareth to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary...the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will be conceive in your womb, and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the LORD GOD will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob (Israel) forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.'" (Luke 1:28-38.)

[John became known as *John the Baptist* and was the forerunner of Jesus Christ, announcing to Israel that he was called by the Spirit to preach repentance and tell them who Jesus is.

"I am the voice crying in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord...then John saw Jesus coming towards Him, he said 'Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world..." (John 1:23-29.)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made...And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we held His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1-3, 14.)

The Apostle Paul wrote:

"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are in on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist." (Col. 1:15-17.)

Teaching of Salvation includes terms **Sanctification, Justification and Grace**. Just in case if needed, I will give just brief explanations for these terms, but if you'd want to know more, you may want to check definitions from a **Bible Dictionary** or **from any good Bible Commentaries**, or I can even add a bit more also if you'd like.

Our friend Mark, who is a gospel teacher in a Baptist Church in Arizona, has shared how he has explained ***Sanctification, Justification and Grace*** to the new Christians, or those who have **come to Faith in Christ Jesus of the Bible** from different backgrounds or even from **different religions, like Mormonism**. Mark has given me permissions to share some of what he has learned, and what else he has come to understand better when sharing the Gospel with LDS people.

Sanctification is the process of God's grace by which the believer is separated from the world and set apart for God's service, as was Paul (Romans 1:1) and Peter (1 Pet. 3:15.) That concept is found throughout the Bible. Biblically those who are ***born again believers*** and seek "***holiness***" and are ***sanctified in Christ Jesus***; they are ***what Christians are to be as true followers of Christ.***" (1 Cor. 1:2).

Justification is the process by which sinful human beings are made acceptable to the holy God. The only "***work***" that we can do is to believe in ***Jesus Christ who is the only Son of God***, and who gave ***His life as the payment for all our sins, was buried and rose again***, and made only one requirement for those who seek to go to heaven. (Eph. 2:8-10.) Jesus said, "***Unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.***" (John 3:3.) ***Only God's children can enter the Heaven.***

Our physical birth makes us only Adam's posterity. "***We all die in Adam*** (1 Cor. 15:22) ***but in Christ we are made alive***" (1 Cor. 15:22.) ***When we receive Him, only then we are "born again" and have "become His children"***. (John 1:12-13; Rom. 8:16-17.) ***That is the grace of God, freely given to all who seek Him. It is only Biblical Christianity that teaches that only by God's grace all mankind can be justified/made righteous before God through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation."***(2 Cor. 5:19.)

Grace is one of the attributes of God. "***The LORD, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...***" (Exodus 34:6.) ***Grace means "without merit", receiving in spite of what one deserves. God's grace is received through a sinner's faith in Jesus Christ, and it is a free gift without any works.*** (Eph. 2:8-10.) ***Works cannot save anyone, but they can only demonstrate what a sinner has become (v.10) after receiving forgiveness and the new birth in Christ.*** Although we may sin even after our true conversion, they will have an effect on ***our service to Christ***, but ***born again believers' sins will not be brought into the Judgement Seat of Christ, for their sins were judged when Jesus bore them in His body on the cross, 2000 years ago. God has promised rewards for our works done in service to Christ, but that will take place after the Rapture.*** (1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-52.)

We thank you, our friends, for your prayers for our Ministry and for us personally. We need you and love you very much. ***You are our family in Christ!***

[We still have not solved our computer problems. This newsletter is late for my computer lost the February letter, and it could not be found. I had to rewrite it again, without having any notes.]

Three weeks ago we sent to you our ***special thank you-letters***, and our loving appreciation for your prayers and support, for without that we could not have done as much as we have been able to do (now 41 years) and we plan to continue working till the Lord calls us home. ☺

We often receive phone calls and letters from many who the Lord had brought to us over the years as they had found out that "***they too had believed in a "wrong Jesus "***". (Sandy Herter called last night to remind us that it was 27 years ago when she and her husband Al drove from Sand Diego, CA, to meet us... ***and they soon began their new life in the real Jesus.*** There are so many of them that

have stayed in touch with us ever since their new life began!

We have, over the years, continued to receive good news from Australia. (You may remember that Dennis went there 12 years ago to meet some of our very special former-Mormons with whom we had shared (by phone, letters and emails) our conversion *from Mormonism to Jesus of the Bible*, and who believed and took us into their hearts. During these many years they have been witnessing to other Mormons, and by *their new life in Christ* they have made impressions to many others, showing them that *"the truth about Jesus matters even in this life, but eternally it REALLY MATTERS!"* We have been sending our *doctrinal Gospel teaching papers* to Elmien and Leon in Perth, AU, for their use there in the same doctrinal order we have used while teaching here. Elmien wrote just a two days ago that their *soon to be former-Mormon group* is growing and that some of them are already attending with them at a Calvary Chapel in Perth, AU. **We pray for them all, and praise the Lord for His Spirit and Love that is drawing these souls to become part of His Bride even now, before He calls us all home in the Rapture.** (John 14:1-3; 1Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor.15:51-52.)

We are again asking you all to pray with us for Judy, Marlene, Connie, Harold, Mark & Virve, Al & Sandy, Helen, Sam, Julie, Jamie, Aira, Heber, Roy, Lois, Sharon, Luke, Vladimir, Suzi, Bruce and Pau, for their healing or other needs that only the Lord can meet. (1 John 5:14-15.)

In the Berean Call Newsletter there was an ad about a ***SUPER Giant Print Reference Bible (KJV), printed in 17.5 point text size.*** I got excited and immediately called to order it. They were so kind and generous and offered to **give it to us as a gift!!** **It is a real Treasure to me!** My eyes needed help and with this larger print my studies of KJV are now so easy, though I normally in my writing use NKJV. **THANK YOU, THE BEREAN CALL!**

Please pray for the Peace of Jerusalem. (Ps. 112:6.) Please also pray for America, for both Israel and America seem to be under attack from our enemy, Satan, for Israel is God's nation and America was founded under the principals that her founders learned from God's Word, the Bible.

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (2 Chron.7:14.)

With Joy in the Lord,

Rauni & Dennis

Email: hismin@xmission.com Phone: 801.943-5011 (Landline phone , does not take texting)

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