

*He is Savior, Acts 4:12

August 16, 2025

HIS MINISTRIES JULY-AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER, COVERING JUNE, JULY AND PART OF AUGUST 2025

As I wrote in our May-June 2025 Newsletter, I had a stroke on the 6th of April (mild *TIA stoke*). My heart beat was irregular and it was seriously skipping beats. I was put on 24/7 heartmonitor for a week to find out what was really happening. I could not speak or even think. Our cardiologist told us both to be calm and I just needed to rest till these many tests are evaluated for they will show what can be done to get me better. I was told that it may take months to be totally healed from a stroke.

We have known that Dennis' own heart condition also needed rest from his carpentry work as well, so we understood that some *quiet time* was important for both of us.

It was not just stress from work that has worn us out, but our personal losses and sadness that had come into our lives because of the sudden loss of people we have deeply loved. Many recent sudden deaths of loved ones in my home country and our daughter's death here, have broken our hearts that only time and our Lord's tender love and care will be able to heal and comfort us. *Life happens, but death closes the doors that cannot be opened again.*

During these last few months while I have been recuperating, we have had only a few face-to-face doctrinal discussions with LDS people who have come to ask questions about their church and we hope that soon we can continue from where we left off about 5 months ago.

I had been asked to speak in May 17th at Bill McKeever's and Eric Johnson's new *Christian Research Center and Library* about how difficult it was to translate these *extremely Secret Mormon Temple rituals* that Joseph Smith had taken from Freemasonry in 1842, just 6 weeks after he had become a Master Mason. My scheduled meeting was to take place just a few weeks after I had my stroke, and I regret that I had agreed to talk about all that so soon after, while fearing that my memory and perhaps my presentation would not yet be clear enough to reveal these complicated ordinances. I had planned to tell more about Joseph Smith's reasons for extreme secrecy connected to Masonry, as well as about weird strangeness of the temple ordinances and the work for the dead beginning ... I felt fear during those many months when I worked in the upper floors of the SL City temple. Other translators who were not involved at that time in the translation of the Temple ordinances, were not to know what was happening there. None of *the temple scripts* could be taken out of those upper floors of the SL temple, not even to the Church's office building, though toward to end of my translation work, I had to take

them to the Provo temple *for testing* how they'll fit with timing of the spoken English words in the original film.

Eric had mentioned that if I may not be able to do well with this assignment in May, he could schedule me to come back sometime later in the fall and answer questions about "what really is going on in there". We'll see if he remembers what he had intended to do with my problem?

We are often asked what issues are the most important in determining if these LDS peoples' faith is focused on what matters the most in eternity? Many talk about the gospel, and wonder what the gospel is and what it really means? It is a Greek word that means "good news" that comforts, and that it comes from God. The gospel is not a new plan of salvation, but it is the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation that He revealed at the beginning, in Genesis (3:15). It begun with God's call to Abraham and from him to Israel, and it was completed in Christ and made known by His disciples who spread it where ever God sent them. The Gospel is the saving work of God in His Son Jesus Christ, and God's call to faith in Him. (Rom. 1:16-17). Paul declared what the gospel that saves actually is. He warned Christians against "another gospel" (2 Cor. 11:4) reminding them that any "gospel" that is different than one he preached, is not a gospel at all. Jesus is not just a messenger of the gospel – He is the Gospel, therefore the Story of Jesus came to be known as the Gospel. Mark's Gospel was the first one written down in the first century tough there are four versions of this same gospel, written by Mathew, Mark, Luke and John.

Let us think and consider what the gospel **taught in the Bible is**, and what eternal life means! **Then let us compare what Mormonism teaches about these issues and doctrines, and discover that they are not telling the truth found in the Word of God, the Bible**.

It was Jesus who emphasized what eternal life is, and who the God of the Bible is, and what faith in Him really means. (Rom. 1:16-17.) He said: "And this is eternal life that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent." (John 17:3.) Ask them:

Do you know this God that Jesus here told them about? Can a different God or "another God" give eternal life? Does it matter who the God you believe in actually is? Is He the Eternal Triune God who is Spirit (John 4:24) or is the God of Mormonism who is just a former mortal man like you now are and "who became a god"?

At the beginning of the Mormon Church (1830) and also the Book of Mormon teaches about one God who is Spirit, (Alma 18:24-28; 11:26-32), but Joseph Smith changed that 14 years later when he spoke in the April 1844-Conference, before about 20 thousand Saints, teaching clearly against what he had taught in the Book of Mormon about one God who is Spirit and when he said, "I am (now) going to tell you how God came to be God. We have imagined and supposed that God was God from all eternity. I will refute that idea...God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens!...It is the first principle of the gospel to know for certainty the Character of God... and that he was once a man like us: yea that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth, same as Jesus Christ himself did...Here, then is eternal life – to know the only wise and true God; and you have got to learn how to be Gods yourselves... the same as all Gods have done before you..." (See: Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pp. 345-346. He also spoke more about the Plurality of Gods from page 370 on). This is the current teaching of the Mormon Church, namely that all

Mormon men can become gods and create worlds and populate them with their spirit children who will worship them as *their God the Father*, etc.

What about "another Jesus and another gospel" that was also warned about by Paul in 2 Cor. 11:3-4, 13-15; John 14:6? Let's answer this question from the Bible, "Was Jesus begotten by the Holy Ghost? Is He Immanuel, God with us?" From Matthew 1:18-23 we read, "Christ Born of Mary" and that "she was found with child of the Holy Spirit... virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God with us'.") (v.23.) But the Mormon Church argued that Jesus was not born of a Virgin and that He is not God who became a man as the Bible says (John 1:1-3, 14), but he is a man who later became a god, as all Mormons are promised also to become.

The Mormon Church surely teaches that <u>Jesus was not begotten by the Holy Ghost</u>, but that "He was begotten by an exalted, resurrected man, an Immortal Father, in the same way that mortal men are begotten by their mortal fathers" (Mormon Doctrine, p. 547. See also "Come Unto Christ", p. 4, by LDS prophet, Ezra Taft Benson, who also said that "<u>Jesus was not</u> begotten by the Holy Ghost".)

Salvation in the Mormon Church is not received as God's gift of grace, but by works of each Mormon individual! Therefore LDS gospel indeed is "another gospel".

Articles of Faith, #3, of the LDS Church says, "all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel." Notice: There are no "laws or ordinances" in the gospel of God in the Bible. Ephesians 2:8-9 declares, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not or works, lest anyone should boast."

I am pretty much healed from my stroke and we are getting back to work and informing Mormons how opposite the LDS Church is from what the Bible teaches.

We were asked to participate in a video-interview by Bob Cornuke, an Archeologist and American author of 8 books, who is the President of the *Biblical Archaeology Search and Exploration Institute* (BASE), operated from his home in Colorado Springs. He is also a professional lecturer and a very good friend of our Bible teacher and mentor, the late Dr. Chuck Missler.

Bob had arranged for one of his video-makers, who lives in Utah, to come to our home (on 8/13/25) and tape Bob's 2 ½ hour interview of us and our experiences, as we had learned first-hand as active and believing Mormons, and later also finding contradictions in Mormon interpretations of who God is, we began to study and investigate all of Mormonism's teachings from its beginning in 1830 to this date. By so doing we both came to know and understand the truth by comparing Mormon doctrine with teachings of the Bible and Biblical Christianity, and we saw that we truly had been deceived. Not only that, we found Mormonism false and deceptive. Through our good friend, Chuck Missler, we began an indepth study, discovering how absolutely correct and true the Bible is. There was no other way but trust and believe the Bible, the Word of God, and accept Jesus Christ as God who became a man to die for our sins. He, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has received us as His born again children (John 1:12-13) and as ministers of His Gospel.

These hot summer months have been quiet and even lonely, but we both are doing better and starting to get ready to continue in HIS Ministry. We had thought that we could do some camping since we were "ordered to rest", but we couldn't go anywhere – the whole summer has been way too hot without AC in our trailer. And in addition my recovering from my stroke, my back-pain would not allow traveling on the rough Mountain roads either. Our camp trailer is over 20 years old, but in June Dennis started to do work in it, putting new floors and other "fix-ups", "just in case" if we can go before summer is over, but not too far... therefore we did not even uncovered our trailer, Dennis has just worked inside it, and it is very lovely again. We'll see if we will go at all...

We are very thankful for our prayer-partners and friends who have checked on us "now and then". We hope that we have not lost many of our Ministry-friends during these last "silent months". Dennis still does some carpentry work that covers our medical and other expenses. Sure thing is that our God is taking care of us, and He answers us through your prayers. He watches over you and over us too.

There are many from our prayer-list who got healed and were helped by God. We will update our prayer list and contact those whom we have not heard from lately. The Lord knows and we will find out. ☺

There are many troubles affecting America and the rest of the World. We are praying, as we are always praying also for *the Peace of Jerusalem*, as it is God's command to all believers in Jesus. (Ps. 112:6.)

Maybe in a month or so we will really start writing our monthly newsletters, and teaching of the Bible and clarifying/correcting (for those who need it) what the Mormon Church has got very wrong.

I will also try to make our letters shorter, but still to the point, and more beneficial for those who want to share the Gospel with the lost.

We hope that our health will continue to improve and that our Ministry will revive as well.

Loving all of you in Christ, Rauni & Dennis

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