



THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

April/May 1982

Oklahoma City Fourth Ward

Volume 2 Number 3

SPECIAL TWO MONTH EDITION

When the Apostle Paul wrote unto the members of the church in Ephesus he counselled: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

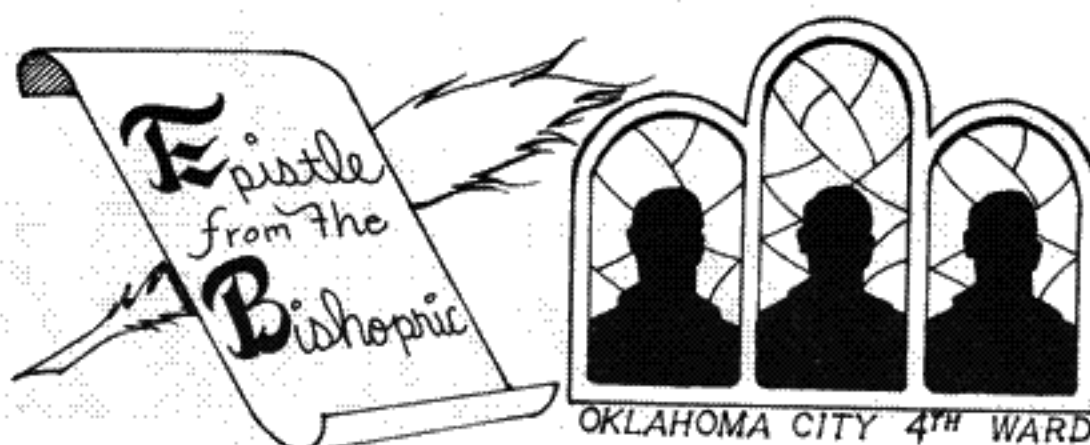
Although sometimes rarely appreciated as such, in the world in which we live, parenthood is one of the essential purposes of our existence on this sphere. Before this earth existed we lived in the holy realm of our Heavenly parents and were given the opportunity to grow and progress and ultimately achieve the same glory which our father in heaven possesses. In order to attain to this glory it was necessary for us to be tested on a neutral "proving ground", out of the presence of God. Here, on this planet, with no remembrance of what went on before, The Lord has organized us into family units in similitude of the heavenly family which we left, and are given responsibilities relative to our eternal purposes.

Through parenthood we not only provide the means by which our brothers and sisters in their spiritual existence may attain mortality, but we, in turn, begin to gain a glimpse of the joys and challenges of Goodhood.

During this month and the month following we take the time to Honour both Mother and Father nationally. Latter-day Saints join in these celebrations with the gratification that our earthly parents have not only provided for us temporally, but eternally as well.

The church has produced many noble women who have embraced the teachings of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and who have raised their families in righteousness. In their honour we here recall the virtues of womanhood as written in proverbs:

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it; with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothes are silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in the tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates. (Proverbs 31:10-31)



OKLAHOMA CITY 4TH WARD



BISHOPRIC

Robert F. Allen
Dave Donaldson
Darrel Haskins

RELIEF SOCIETY

Corrine Booth
Pam Hall
Alice Brooks

ELDERS QUORUM

Mitch Chesney
Gary Hall
Les Wilson

SEVENTIES QUORUM

Arturo Valdivia
Mark Donaldson

HIGH PRIEST GROUP

Jim Orr

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Douglas Seymour
Eugene Prigmore

SPECIAL INTEREST

Robert Atchley Jr.
Donny Murley

YOUNG ADULTS

Gary J. Satterlee
Marti Lindsey

YOUNG WOMEN

Diana Vawter
Sara Foreman
Patricia Tucker

YOUNG MEN

Ron Hoover
Bill Vawter
Bill Wood

PRIMARY

Jane Force
Lorie Leighty
Lallie Doshier

ACTIVITIES

DIRECTOR

Joan Young

No lesson in life equals the importance of the lessons that a child receives in regards to prayer; for prayer is the most vital link that any person has when it comes to communicating and gaining a relationship with our Father in Heaven. The simple words repeated by a small child on his knees will train and prepare him for seeking and receiving valuable revelation throughout his life. DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 68:28 admonishes parents to "teach their children to pray, and to walk uprightly before the Lord."

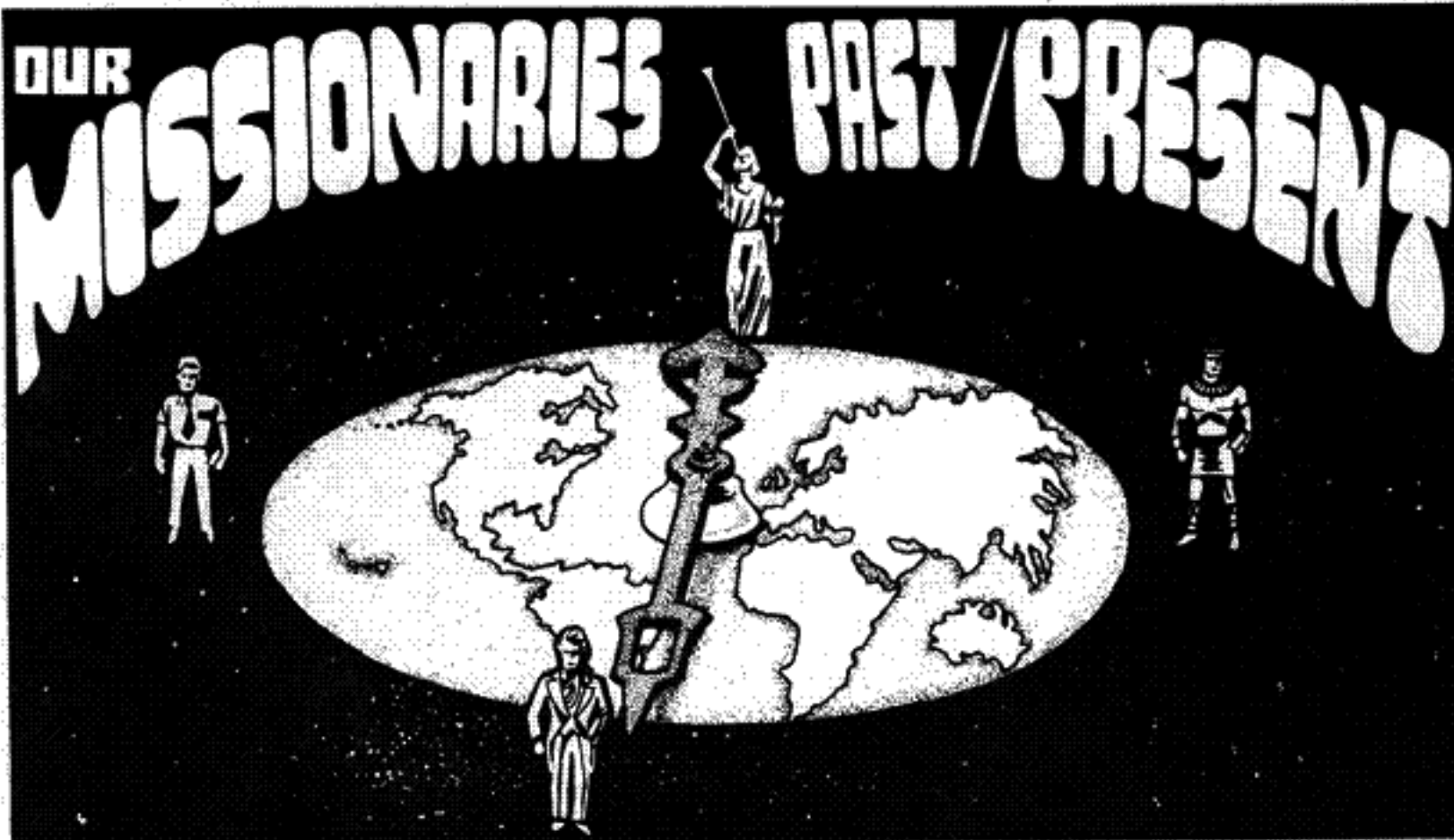
As in all things, a parent's example is the most powerful teaching tool available for lessons on prayer. Witnessing and experiencing prayer through parents is more impressive than might be thought. As mothers and fathers take their turns in family prayer, blessings on the food and other occasions, they need to be careful to avoid vain repetitions. These are readily and easily adopted by young ones. The proper prayer language of thee, thou, thy, thine, etc., should also be used, but big words of flowery vocabulary can make even the most sincere prayer sail right over the head of a small child. Make vocal prayers, where the family is involved, understandable for everyone. Pray with purpose, feeling, and meaning, so that the spirit will be present. We want the Holy Ghost to teach our children also.

Give children opportunities to pray often. Fathers need to be in tune as they call on family members to pray; for a certain one may need to be chosen at a particular time to be the voice of the family in communicating with Heavenly Father. The more times a child prays, the more comfortable he will be with prayer, public and private. Both are important and private time should be given to children for personal prayers daily. Help young ones to establish good habits of prayer early by providing and encouraging opportunities.

Since communication with our Father in Heaven is such a priority in spiritual living, much time should be given to its discussion. We can instill a greater concept of the purpose of prayer by sharing our experiences and feelings about it with our children. Give a family home evening on prayer. Explain how Heavenly Father talks to us and how He has talked to you. And as you have the privilege of personal one on one time with your children, informally bear your testimony as to the power of prayer.

As each one of us learn, struggle, and make efforts in life, we delight in hearing words of praise. Praise reinforces good and so as parents we ought to praise our children freely. Let them know that you are pleased with their thoughtfulness, their courage, their improvement, or whatever is appropriate to them and their prayers. They need this. A parent's approval can make all the difference in the way a child views himself as a child of God.

Now is the time to begin to teach or to continue to teach. Great is the responsibility that the Lord places on parents; but rich are the blessings and joys that come to those who heed His counsel. Eternal families are made up of individuals who love the Lord and who have been fully taught to live as He directs.



PAST MISSIONARY

After the All-Mission Conference on August 22, 1979, my companion and I became really excited about using our time as best we could; and while travelling and looking up referrals, we talked to everyone we could, obtaining a few more referrals in the process. We had an investigator we wanted to visit one night, so at about 7:30 pm we started walking towards his apartment. We came to a place we had passed many times before, but the decision before had never been so hard. My companion knew which way he preferred to go, but he decided not to argue about my decision. I chose the righthand path and we took off.

As we were walking along the sidewalk, about 15 minutes later, Elder Springer saw a young longhaired high school student approaching. Because of success on referrals already that night, my companion said, "Good evening." How are you?" He gave a non-committal grunt. Thinking he might be interested in our English class, we started talking about it. Then he asked, "Are you guys missionaries?" We said, "Yes," and continued our approach. He asked, "Are you going someplace special?" We explained that we were headed for a friend's place. He seemed a bit disappointed by that, and as we were about to leave, he asked once again where we were going. My companion asked, "Do you have something you want to talk about?" He said, "Is it okay if we talk a little?"

Just before asking, he began to sob softly. Then after his inquiry, he really began to cry. He then confessed that he had just come from the railroad tracks, planning to jump in front of a train. We met him coming away from those tracks, walking to his home some 30 minutes away. Elder Springer immediately grabbed for him, because he had really broken down crying. I put my arms around him and I had my companion and him to sit down on the concrete wall next to the sidewalk. We started telling him

that God lives and loves him and that everything would be okay. Then Elder Springer told him God had planned for us to meet him that night, and again he started crying, just letting out all his frustrations.

We started walking him home, but I suggested, "Let's go to the park." We introduced the plan of salvation and the Joseph Smith story in the park under a street light, but the Spirit was just right. We asked him to pray for help and he said he would. We ended our lesson with prayer. He looked and felt better when we finished.

As we walked him home, he could laugh and enjoy himself again. We met the next night: he had prayed five times since we saw him last. He was constantly praying in his heart, too! We knew he was converted when he said that! His parents were not interested, so we met him at church for his lessons. When we taught him about Jesus Christ, the Spirit was super strong. He passed his baptismal interview with flying colors, even though giving up coffee was hard for him. He was baptized two weeks after we met him, and in one week from his baptism, three of his friends were baptized also! This was the most spirit-filled experience of my mission.

ROBERT ATCHLEY JR.

Robert M. Atchley Jr. served in the Hakkido Japan Mission from December 1977 to December 1979.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

PRESENT MISSIONARIES



TO:

THE LIAHONA

Dear Liahona,

Thanks a lot for sending the newspaper, I really do appreciate it. My german is coming great and I try to speak my language everyday. It's tough on P-days, but I try. The first, I mean second day at the MTC I was able to say a prayer in German and the first sunday was the first day of SYL (Speak your language). I think that SYL is the best thing we have at the MTC. You get to practice and learn so much when you always have to talk your language. I enjoy the MTC. It's a great place to learn and everybody tries hard to help you. I've learned two discussions so far and hope to learn them all. We have a time after classes when all of the missionaries on my floor get together to sing and pray and have a spiritual thought. The brotherhood and love is really strong and it's great to be a part of it. The Lord has promised all his children that they would have a chance to hear the gospel and return to him. There are many who are waiting to have this opportunity and perhaps someone that I promised I would take the gospel to. I hope I can live to receive the spirit that I can be lead to those who are waiting.

Love Elder Tom Bauder

Dear Liahona,

I am now in Mendoza Argentina, the province most southern in my mission. You might say I started at the top and that I'm going to finish at the bottom. I have an experience I'd like to share with you for the Liahona. I was in Mercedes one month but we had a miracle! Well when we first got to Mercedes we met the nephew of one of the members of our branch. His name is Oscar, and was visiting Mercedes from Buenos Aires. His parents are seperated and he was going through a "searching" stage in his life. Well his aunt and uncle talked him into visiting the church one sunday. He seemed to like it pretty well so we started to teach him the discussions. Wow! what discussions! They were really the most beautiful, spiritual discussions I've seen in my mission. The spirit just beat on my heart and rang through my head that the gospel is true! Many times we finished in tears, and Oscar recieved the discussions with a good spirit. He accepted the baptismal challenge and began to progress towards the set date. He began to read and we could feel and increase of his faith. We got down to the week before his baptism and everything was going well....too well! And, as it always goes, Satan began

to work on Oscar, in the form of his other relatives who are not members of the church. They said,..."you don't need to change religions....changing religions is bad." He decided to take their advice, and told us he no longer wanted to be baptized. We almost died! So we began to talk with him, cry and everything else, but he just kept saying no. As we left with a great spirit of rejection in our hearts, and my companion said..."Don't worry sister, this is just a trial of faith. He will get baptized."

And so it was.....We stopped back by his home later that night. He answered the door and we saw a different person! Oscar asked us to come in and told us he wanted to be baptized!

Naturally, we asked him what had changed his mind. He told us that after we left that morning he started to think, and was impressed to read in the Book of Mormon. Oscar began to read King Benjamin's discourse in Mosiah, and something caused a change of heart. He recieved a testimony of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon, changed his life, his spirit, even his countenance. So the following sunday he was baptized by one cousin and confirmed by another cousin.

What a testimony of the effectiveness of the Book of Mormon in teaching the gospel. Oscar will be a leader in the church and it is all because he gained a testimony of the Book of Mormon, and I testify it is true also.

Love, Sister Kathryn Davis

Dear Liahona,

We got your note asking for information about the progress here in the Dominican Republic.

Last year there were over 1300 baptizms in the mission and of course our goal is a little higher. The work is progressing here at a rapid rate. Here in Santiago our first chapel will be finished within a month, and along with that there will be 4 or 5 finished at about the same time in other parts of the country. In addition we have heard rumors that about 15 more are going to be under construction soon and will have a much shorter completion date than the one here.

When these chapels are completed we believe the work will increase at an even greater rate. We believe the presence of a completed chapel will help bring in more and more members.

The Santiago and Santo Domingo Districts have been reorganized, and they are beginning to look more and more like organized stakes. There are many more members now with leadership ability and experience in the church so it will not be very long until we have a couple of stakes here. The mission is changing from door knocking to having cottage meetings in the homes of the members to get new converts as well as to re-activate old ones.

We are one of two couples here in the country now and there is plenty of work for 20 more spanish speaking couples. My wife and I testify that the work here is wonderful and the blessings flow and are truly great. The Lord has blessed us many times in the short time we have been here. We love this work and know that it is inspired, and are grateful for the opportunity we were given to come here and work with these people. We pray that when we retire we will be called again. That is how we feel about our mission.

Sincerely, Elder and Sister Atchley

Scripture Quiz

BY GARY J SATTERLEE

THIS MONTH WE ARE COMEMORATING THE RESTORATION OF THE AARONIC PRIESTHOOD WHICH OCCURED ON MAY 15, 1829 WHEN THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH AND HIS SCRIBE OLIVER COWDERY WERE ORDAINED BY THE RESURRECTED JOHN THE BAPTIST. (D&C SECTION 13)



1. HOW MANY DIFFERENT PRIESTHOODS ARE THERE?
2. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AARONIC AND LEVITICAL ORDERS?
3. WHO IS THE PRESIDING OFFICER OVER THE AARONIC PRIESTHOOD?

OKLAHOMA'S MORMON HERITAGE

Voices From Our Past

by Carol Goolsby



DEAN SYMONS ANDERSON

In an effort to honour our heritage as members of Oklahoma City Fourth Ward, we are going to be publishing articles about various long-time members of the church in this part of the Lord's vineyard. The first articles will honor our past bishops and their wives.

The history of our first bishop is filled with the growth and change of the church in its infant stage in Oklahoma.....

Dean Symons Anderson was born April 17, 1909 of Mormon parents who had "gathered to Zion" from Norway. His father, Christian "Nephi" Anderson will be remembered for the numerous church articles and books which he has written. Among the more famous was "Added Upon," which is available in our meetinghouse library and in most LDS outlets.

Having been a very righteous man and a willing servant of the Lord, Brother Anderson's funeral service was conducted by the General Authorities of the church in Utah. His brother, (and Dean's uncle) Carl, having been a noted painter in Norway was chosen to paint the portraits of the prophets for the Coleville Utah tabernacle and later assisted in painting the murals in the Salt Lake City Temple.

Coming from such a righteous and talented family it is no surprise then that Dean also was righteous and talented. He had a beautiful tenor voice and in utilization of that talent, Dean performed with the Salt Lake Metropolitan Civic Opera.

During the production of the light opera "The Student Prince" he met and fell in love with Margaret Ada Neal, whom he married April 2, 1938 in the Salt Lake City Temple. Margaret graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelors Degree in education. She taught school in Salt Lake until her children were born. In October 1946, Dean and Margaret and their little family were transferred from Seattle Washington to Oklahoma by the FAA.

In 1946 the church was meeting in an upper room of the downtown YWCA on Park Avenue and Walker. It was presided over by James A. Cullimore as District President. (Elder Cullimore is now an Emeritus member of the First Quorum of Seventy.)

In 1953 Dean was called as 2nd Counselor to President Cullimore and the following year as 1st counselor of the Western Oklahoma District.

In 1957 he was called to the position of Branch President of the newly organized South Oklahoma City Branch. The saints met in a "little white rented building" on South Pennsylvania until our first phase chapel was built.

During construction of our chapel, Dean became ill, and was hospitalized for surgery. As an indication of his commitment to the Lord's work....Dean made Margaret drive him to the church to see the work on the chapel before going home from the hospital. The workers were having some problems with the concrete slab. Dean asked Margaret to stay in the car while he went to investigate. His concerned wife said, "You're going to kill yourself." To which he answered: "If I'm going to die, I might as well die doing the work of the Lord." Resigned, she replied "Very well then" and obediently remained in the car.

Dean put himself to work pushing wheelbarrows full of cement with the strength that only comes to the saints of the Lord as they labor in behalf of him.

When asked about their first impressions of Oklahoma, Dean and Margaret said they were shocked at all of the oil wells and felt that as the state had been blessed with an abundance of oil, so had the saints been blessed with an outpouring of the spirit. As always, when hard work is accompanied by mighty prayer, the kingdom grows.

In October 1960 the Western Oklahoma District became the Oklahoma Stake, South Oklahoma City Branch became South Oklahoma City Ward, District President

Cullimore became Stake President Cullimore, and President Anderson became our first bishop.

As if their lives as parents and diligent servants of the kingdom wasn't enough, they both pursued their educations. Dean graduated in June 1952 from OCU college of Law and was admitted into the bar in July 1952. Margaret received her Masters degree in education from OU in 1962. She also taught school for many years planting seeds of the gospel that are still bearing fruit.

Dean was released as bishop in Feb. 1962 and served on the Oklahoma Stake High Council until June of the same year, at which time he was ordained by Gordon B. Hinckley of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, as the first Oklahoma Stake Patriarch. During the following 8 years he gave over 800 blessings.

Also during this time their 5 children, Carol, Neal, Louise, Marilyn, and Myra Jean completed school and went away to college. Neal served an honorable mission to the Eastern States Mission. All 5 married worthy mates in the temples of the Lord.

Dean and Margaret both retired in 1970. Within a few weeks they had sold their home and said their goodbyes and were winging their way south to the Vera-Cruz Mexico Southeast Mission. They served the saints in Mexico as they had served the saints in Oklahoma, with all their hearts, might, minds, and strength. They preached the gospel and helped teach the members how to can tomatoes.

They were released in Jul 1972 and after a brief trip to Oklahoma, finally found their way back home to Utah where they live today. Most people would have retired to live on their laurels, but not Brother and Sister Anderson. After their release and return from their mission they were called to work in the Salt Lake Temple where they served until December 1981 when they were called to the new Jordan River Temple where they are currently serving.

Dean and Margaret Anderson are living examples that testify of the fulfillment and joy that comes from "eternal service" in the kingdom of the Lord. They have passed their great heritage on to their children and to their 24 grandchildren. (The oldest grandson is now serving in Japan) Their example can also be an example to all of us in the "mission field." Though they were talented and cultured in "Mormonism" they came to this alien land and instead of regretting the lack of things to feed themselves, they followed Christ's example and "fed" others.

Brother Anderson recalls the wonderful people, filled with enthusiasm, determination, hard work, and a willingness to work in the building up the kingdom of God on the earth. It shows in the way the gospel spreads and kingdom grows in Oklahoma. "The riches of oil are as nothing compared to the riches of working with those people." (Dean and Margaret Anderson reside at 860 E Three Fountains Dr. #207, Murray Ut. 84107)

SCRIPTURE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. THERE IS ACTUALLY ONLY ONE PRIESTHOOD; THE PRIESTHOOD AFTER THE ORDER OF THE SON OF GOD. DIFFERENT ORDERS OF THIS PRIESTHOOD EXIST WHICH PROGRESSIVELY BESTOW MORE AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY. THE AARONIC ORDER ADMINISTERS THE OUTWARD ORDINANCES OF THE GOSPEL, AND IN THE TEMPORAL AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH, WHEREAS THE MELCHIZEDEK ORDER OFFICIATES IN THE SPIRITUAL ORDINANCES AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH.
2. THE AARONIC AND LEVITICAL ORDERS ARE OFTEN THOUGHT TO BE SYNONYMOUS, BUT THIS IS NOT ENTIRELY ACCURATE. ANCIENTLY THIS PRIESTHOOD WAS RESTRICTED FROM ALL EXCEPT THE DESCENDANTS OF LEVI (WHICH INCLUDED THE SONS OF AARON). THE LEVITICAL ORDER WAS COMPARABLE TO THE POSITIONS OF DEACON AND TEACHER IN THE CHURCH TODAY. THE LEVITES ASSISTED THE PRIESTS BUT DID NOT PERFORM ANY ORDINANCES. THE SONS OF AARON HELD THE RIGHT TO PRESIDENCY OVER ALL THE LEVITES WHO HELD THE PRIESTHOOD. THESE AARONIC PRIESTS OFFICIATED IN THE OUTWARD ORDINANCES AS IS COMMON IN THE CHURCH TODAY.
3. THE BISHOP PRESIDES OVER THE AARONIC PRIESTHOOD IN THE WARD. THE PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE CHURCH IS THE PRESIDENT OVER ALL THE AARONIC PRIESTHOOD. ONLY LITERAL DESCENDANTS OF AARON HAVE A LEGAL RIGHT TO THESE OFFICES; OTHERWISE ONLY A HIGH PRIEST OF THE MELCHIZEDEK ORDER MAY OFFICIATE IN HIS STEAD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If ever there were doubts about the Church's commitment to providing temples for the Latter-day Saints worldwide, events during the last few world conferences quickly dispelled them. Never has there been a time in history which saw more temples announced, started, or completed. And the past April conference was no different.

It began in October 1980 when President Spencer W. Kimball dedicated the first LDS temple in Asia in Tokyo Japan. Three weeks later, the Seattle Temple was dedicated. In February, President Kimball traveled to the South Pacific to break ground for temples in Tahiti, Tonga and Samoa. On March 7, he attended the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Atlanta Temple. The four temples were among seven new temples announced April 2, 1980- the most temples ever announced at one time....the most, that is, until April 1 1981, when the First Presidency announced plans to build nine new temples in Chicago, Ill.; Dallas, Texas; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Lima, Peru; Frankfurt, West Germany; Stockholm Sweden; Seoul, Korea; Manila, Philippines; and Johannesburg, South Africa.

This past April the First Presidency announced the building of four new temples on three continents. Guayaquil, Ecuador; Denver, Colorado; Taipei, Taiwan; and Boise, Idaho, bringing the world wide total to 20 temples operating world wide, with 21 under construction or in the planning stages.

Other important changes were the shortening of the lengths of the full time missions from two years to one year and a half, and changes in the financial policies of the construction church buildings.

RELIEF SOCIETY



Last month we emphasized reading our Relief Society lessons in order to help us learn the things we need to know to gain exaltation. As we're told in the New Testament, though, "...be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." (JAMES 1:22) Reading and studying, to be effective, must be followed by righteous and purposeful action.



The Relief Society Presidency, Pam Hall, Corrine Booth and Alice Brooks, explains to Susan Seymore about the ways to improve our Food Storage Program during a special Relief Society Birthday dinner, and home preparedness meeting. A-O PHOTO

The Fourth Ward Relief Society Presidency wishes to express thanks to all the many sisters in the Ward who show love and compassion to others. Relief Society is nothing without the "relief". Many times we call upon you to assist in providing food for families in need because of illness, deaths in the family, or new babies. We also ask for help when a sister's children need to be cared for or when transportation must be provided. It is often necessary to make assignments in order to prevent oversights. As Relief Society sisters we are not limited, however, to just those things that are specifically requested of us. The Lord gives us this counsel in D&C 58:27: "...men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness."

What good causes can we engage in? If you can't think of anything, ask a member of the Relief Society Presidency. We have plenty of ideas. Here are just a few:

VISIT A NEW FAMILY IN THE WARD; VISIT A SISTER WITH A NEW BABY; OFFER TO KEEP CHILDREN OF SOMEONE WHO'S ILL; OFFER TO KEEP CHILDREN FOR SOMEONE WHO ISN'T ILL; SIT NEXT TO SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LONELY OR NEW AT CHURCH AND OFFER ASSISTANCE; RUN ERRANDS FOR SOMEONE WITH NO CAR; VISIT SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL; CLEAN THE HOUSE OR TAKE FOOD IN FOR SOMEONE WHO'S SICK; GIVE A RIDE TO CHURCH; VOLUNTEER TO DO A MINI-CLASS IN HOMEMAKING MEETING; DO YOUR VISITING TEACHING; MAKE A GIFT FOR ANYONE; SEND A LETTER OR CARD; CALL SOMEONE; ETC. The list is endless.

Helping others is not just busy work; it's the way we lift someone else's spirit while nourishing our own. Strive to set a goal of looking for opportunities to serve. Remember that somewhere, someone needs you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

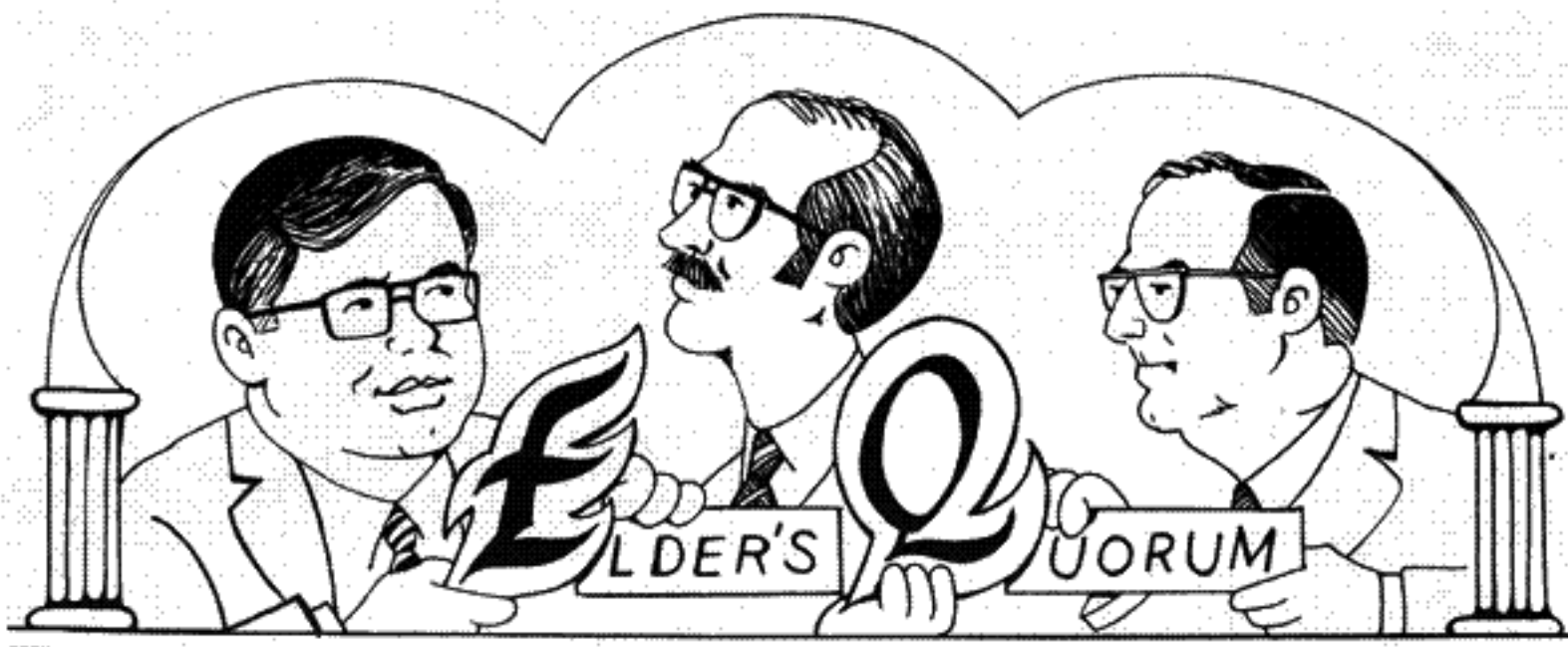
IN APRIL, OUR HOMEMAKING MINI-CLASSES INCLUDE: BUILDING FOOD STORAGE SHELVES, SEWING CLUTCH PURSES, MAKING CHEESE, QUILTING A BABY QUILT WITH YARN, AND THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE. FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT SHARON WOOD AT 794-7085.

Primary

PRIMARY HAS HAD A WONDERFUL START THIS YEAR, AS FIFTY-TWO CHILDREN HAVE HAD PERFECT ATTENDANCE DURING FEBRUARY. BOTH FEBRUARY AND MARCH HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE AS "Perfect Attendance" MONTHS. WE WILL BE RECOGNIZING THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN IN CLOSING EXERCISES: John Armstrong, Zach Barlow, Likey Force, Canda Peay, Jamie Prigmore, April Vongchanyakul, Cynthia Armstrong, Anna Donaldson, Aaron Goolsby, Derek Hall, Leah Mueller, Debra Peay, Scott Seymore, Aaron Wood, Elizabeth Wood, David Allen, Russell Armstrong, Dena Brown, Samuel Donaldson, Misty Harris, Christina Kennedy, Keith Mueller, Anita Peay, Rebecca Slaughter, Stephanie Woods, Jody Prigmore, Donny Cook, Cory Force, Amy Hoover, Faith Vongchanyakul, Bryan Armstrong, Terry Prigmore, Anna Miranda, Jennie Hoover, Veronica Barlow, Ester Donaldson, Crystal Force, Steven Godwin, Carolyn Woods, Lori Prigmore, Susan Tucker, Scott Allen, Mathew Hoover, Chris Slaughter, James Peay and John Woods.

IF YOU ATTEND ANOTHER WARD WHILE OUT OF TOWN, YOUR CHILDREN CAN STILL BE COUNTED. JUST SEND A NOTE OR HAVE THEM TELL THEIR PRIMARY TEACHER.

OUR MYSTERY PERSON THIS MONTH WAS SISTER DARLENE COOK. HER CHILDREN SHARED WITH US THAT SHE IS A WONDERFUL MOTHER WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR. SHE IS OUR PRIMARY PIANIST AND WE ARE REALLY BLESSED TO HAVE HER, AS ONE OF HER WONDERFUL QUALITIES IS HER REGULAR ATTENDANCE.



THE LAW OF IDLENESS

IT'S A NATURAL LAW THAT OUT OF IDLENESS COMES WEAKNESS. NATURE HATES IDLENESS IN ALL ITS FORMS. SHE GIVES CONTINUOUS LIFE ONLY TO THOSE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE IN USE. TIE UP AN ARM OR ANY OTHER PART OF THE BODY IN USELESSNESS, AND THE IDLE PART WILL SOON BECOME LIFELESS. REVERSE THE ORDER AND GIVE AN ARM MORE THAN NORMAL USE, AS THE ACTIVITY ENGAGED IN BY THE BLACKSMITH WHO WIELDS A HEAVY HAMMER ALL DAY LONG, AND THE ARM GROWS STRONG.

THIS LAW GOVERNS PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SPIRITUAL, SOCIAL AND PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT. IT SAYS THAT THE WAY TO GROWTH IS ACTIVITY, WHEREAS THE WAY TO DEATH IS IDLENESS. RUNNING WATER PURIFIES ITSELF, BUT THE STAGNANT WATER OF AN INACTIVE POND BECOMES IMPURE AND UNHEALTHY, AND SO DO THE CELLS OF A SLUGGISH BODY OR AN INACTIVE BRAIN. LAZINESS IS THE INFLUENCE OF AN INACTIVE MIND UPON THE CELLS OF THE BODY.

NOTHING IS MORE COMMON THAN MENTAL INERTIA. FOR EVERY TEN PEOPLE WHO ARE PHYSICALLY LAZY THERE ARE TEN THOUSAND WITH STAGNANT MINDS, AND STAGNANT MINDS ARE BREEDING PLACES OF FEAR, IGNORANCE, SIN AND CRIME. THE PERSON WHO IS ACTIVE GENERATES POWER AND BREEDS COURAGE. THE ONE WHO HAS POWER IN HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS HAS LITTLE TO FEAR, WHILE THE UNPROFITABLE SERVANT ALLOWS HIS FEAR TO DESTROY HIS FAITH. WE CAN BUILD UP OUR FAITH AND OUR INDUSTRY TO WHERE IT WILL ELIMINATE OUR FEAR.

ONE OF NATURE'S LAWS TELLS US THAT WE SHOULD EARN OUR BREAD BEFORE WE EAT IT. WHEN YOUNG PEOPLE WANT TOO MUCH EASE AT THE BEGINNING OF THEIR LIVES, THEY ARE USUALLY DOOMED TO FAILURE. REST COMES ONLY AFTER IT HAS BEEN EARNED. WHEN NATURE SEES A YOUNG PERSON ENGAGED IN INACTIVITY, SHE ASSUMES THAT HE WISHES TO BECOME A NOBODY AND IMMEDIATELY BEGINS GRANTING HIS REQUEST.

MANY OTHERWISE CAPABLE PEOPLE SUCCEED TO THIS NEGATIVE LAW. OFTEN THE SONS OF WEALTHY FAMILIES ARE NOT PROPERLY IMPRESSED WITH THE NECESSITY FOR EFFORT. THEY TRY TO SLIDE FROM FIRST BASE TO HOME PLATE ON THEIR FAMILY NAME AND, IN CONFORMITY WITH THIS LAW OF EASE, THEY LOSE THEIR INHERITANCE. WHEN ONE SITS TOO LONG ON HIS CUSHIONS OF ADVANTAGE, HE GOES TO SLEEP AND IS SOON ELIMINATED FROM THE RACE.

THERE ARE OTHERS WHO FAIL BECAUSE THEIR FIRST EFFORTS MISCARRY, AND THEY LOSE HEART AND QUIT. SUCCESS LIKES TO BE SOUGHT AFTER AND WOODED. THE MASTER HIMSELF SAID, "Pray without ceasing." LIFE DOES NOT ALWAYS GRANT ONE'S

FIRST PETITION. OBSTACLES ARE PUT IN OUR WAY TO STRENGTHEN US, BUT WHEN WE MISUNDERSTAND THEIR PURPOSE AND ALLOW THEM TO BREED DISCOURAGEMENT — THAT IS, WHEN WE CANNOT TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TEMPORARY SETBACKS AND PERMANENT FAILURE — THEN WE TURN OFF OUR EFFORT AND SUCCUMB TO THE PENALTIES OF THE LAW OF IDLENESS.

TEMPORARY FAILURE IS NATURE'S GREAT CRUCIBLE IN WHICH SHE BURNS THE DROSS FROM THE HUMAN HEART AND SO PURIFIES THE MAN THAT HE CAN STAND HARDER USAGE. IT IS SAID THAT FORTUNE OFTEN DISAPPOINTS HIM WHOM SHE SECRETLY ANOINTS. A POET HAS WRITTEN:

HOW SHE HAMMERS HIM AND HURTS HIM,
AND WITH MIGHTY BLOWS CONVERTS HIM.

HARD HAMMERING IS ALWAYS NECESSARY TO MAKE THE FINEST STEEL. BECAUSE OF THE LAW OF OPPOSITION, IT IS NECESSARY THAT PEOPLE BE ACQUAINTED WITH OBSTACLES AND ROUGH GOING. MOST MEN DEVELOP FASTER AFTER THEY UNDERSTAND OPPOSITION, WHICH AROUSES THEM TO GREATER ACTION. OUR STRENGTH GROWS OUT OF OUR WEAKNESS. NOT UNTIL WE ARE PRICKED AND STUNNED AND SHOT AT IS OUR INDIGNATION AWAKENED. WHEN HE IS PUNISHED, TORMENTED, AND DEFEATED, A PERSON HAS A CHANCE TO LEARN SOMETHING. AND WHEN WE CEASE TO LOOK FOR A LIFE OF EASE, WE HAVE A CHANCE TO GO PLACES.

NATURALLY, WE WOULD ALL LIKE TO HAVE SOMEONE GIVE US DETAILED DIRECTIONS AS TO HOW TO SUCCEED AND THEN GIVE US THE PUSH THAT WOULD CARRY US ACROSS THE GOAL LINE. NO ONE CAN SUCCEED FOR US EXCEPT OURSELVES, AND NO TWO PERSONS FIND THE SAME WAY TO THE GOAL. EACH MUST FIND HIS WAY THERE BY HIMSELF. EFFORT AND STRUGGLE — BOTH MENTAL AND PHYSICAL — ARE THE WAY BY WHICH WE ACHIEVE. LIFE WAS NEVER INTENDED TO BE JUST A PLEASURE TRIP OR A DOWNHILL RIDE. IT IS AN UPHILL JOURNEY. IT IS A CONQUEST, A LONG SERIES OF DIFFICULTIES AND OBSTACLES TO BE MASTERED.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT GETTING TIRED, FOR WEARINESS USUALLY DOES NOT COME FROM OVERWORK, BUT FROM LACK OF INTEREST IN WHAT YOU ARE DOING. THE MUSCLES NEVER GROW FAST UNTIL WE GIVE THEM SOME HEAVY USAGE. THE POSSESSION OF POTENTIAL POWER AND THE USE OF IT ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS. THE USE OF OUR STRENGTH MAKES US POWERFUL, WHILE THE PUR-

CONTINUED ON PG.77

All things, when viewed in the proper perspective, attest to the existence of God. Nature, art, music, literature, science, etc... All contribute evidence to this ABSOLUTE TRUTH. Many of us take these grand miracles for granted simply because they are so "common place". The mind of the skeptic, unable to comprehend divine intervention in all things, looks to the unique and unusual as his source of testimony. As Latter-Day Saints, we have a greater witness through the Spirit, which converts rather than convinces us. All other evidences are merely supplemental to what we already know to be true.

The following article came into my possession about 1969 - 1970 from a non-Mormon source. Non-members may be astounded, and latter-Day Saints - peacefully assured.



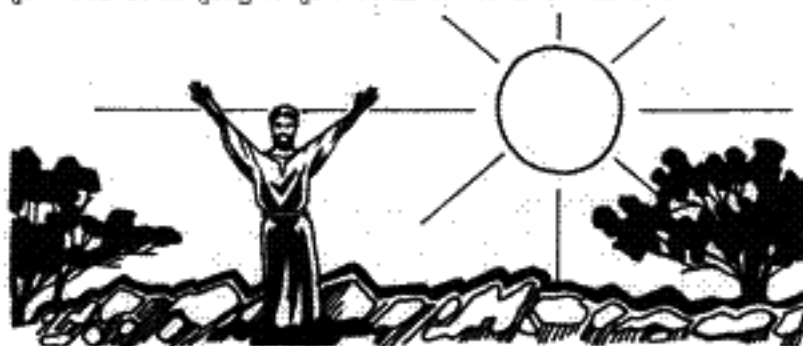
AN AMAZING STORY

Did you know that the space program is busy proving that what has been called a "myth" in the Bible is true? Mr. Harold Hill, President of Curtis Engine Company in Baltimore, Maryland, and a consultant in the space program, relates the following development:

I THINK ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING THINGS THAT GOD HAS FOR US TODAY HAPPENED RECENTLY TO OUR ASTRONAUTS AND SPACE SCIENTISTS AT GREEN BELT, MARYLAND. THEY WERE CHECKING THE POSITION OF THE SUN, MOON AND PLANETS OUT IN SPACE AND WHERE THEY WOULD BE 100 YEARS AND 1000 YEARS FROM NOW. WE HAVE TO KNOW THIS SO THAT WE DON'T SEND A SATELLITE UP AND HAVE IT BUMP INTO SOMETHING LATER ON IN ITS ORBIT. WE HAVE TO LAY OUT THE ORBIT IN TERMS OF LIFE OF THE SATELLITE, AND WHERE THE PLANETS WILL BE SO THE WHOLE THING WILL NOT BOG DOWN. THEY RAN THE COMPUTER MEASUREMENT BACK AND FORTH OVER THE CENTURIES AND IT CAME TO A HALT. THE COMPUTER STOPPED AND PUT UP A RED SIGNAL, WHICH MEANT THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG EITHER WITH THE INFORMATION FED INTO IT OR WITH THE RESULTS AS COMPARED TO THE STANDARDS. THEY CALLED IN THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT TO CHECK IT OUT, AND THEY SAID, "It's perfect." THE IBM HEAD OF OPERATIONS SAID, "What is wrong?" "Well, we have found that there is a day missing in space in elapsed time." THEY SCRATCHED THEIR HEADS AND TORE THEIR HAIR. THERE WAS NO ANSWER.

ONE RELIGIOUS FELLOW ON THE TEAM SAID, "You know, one time I was in Sunday School and they talked about the sun standing still." THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM, BUT THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER ANSWER. SO THEY SAID, "Show us." SO, HE GOT A BIBLE AND WENT BACK TO THE BOOK OF JOSHUA, WHERE THEY FOUND A PRETTY RIDICULOUS STATEMENT FOR ANYBODY WHO HAS "COMMON SENSE". "And the Lord said unto Joshua, Fear

them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee. Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night. And the Lord discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Beth-Horon, and smote them unto Azekah and unto Makkedah. And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel and were in the going down to Beth-Horon, that the Lord cast down great stones from the Heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: They were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword. Then spake Joshua to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the Valley of Ajalon. And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon thier enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of Heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day, and there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord harkened unto the voice of a man: for the Lord fought for Israel. (JOSHUA 10:8-14)



THE SPACE MEN SAID, "There is the missing day." WELL, THEY CHECKED THE COMPUTERS GOING BACK AND FORTH INTO THE TIME IT WAS WRITTEN AND FOUND IT WAS CLOSE, BUT NOT CLOSE ENOUGH. THE TIME THAT WAS MISSING BACK IN JOSHUA'S DAY WAS 23 HOURS AND 20 MINUTES -- NOT A WHOLE DAY. THEY READ THE BIBLE AND THERE IT SAID APPROXIMATELY A DAY. THESE LITTLE WORDS IN THE BIBLE ARE IMPORTANT. BUT THEY WERE STILL IN TROUBLE, BECAUSE IF YOU CANNOT ACCOUNT FOR 40 MINUTES, YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE 1000 YEARS FROM NOW. FORTY MINUTES HAD TO BE FOUND BECAUSE IT CAN BE MULTIPLIED MANY TIMES OVER IN ORBITS. WELL, THIS RELIGIOUS FELLOW REMEMBERED SOMEWHERE IN THE BIBLE WHERE IT SAID THE SUN WENT backwards. THEY GOT THEIR BOOK AND READ THAT HEZEKIAH, ON HIS DEATH-BED, WAS VISITED BY THE GREAT PROPHET ISAIAH, WHO TOLD HIM THAT HE WAS NOT GOING TO DIE. HEZEKIAH DID NOT BELIEVE HIM, AND ASKED FOR A SIGN AS PROOF. And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up into the House of the Lord the third day? And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the Lord, that the Lord will do the thing that he hath spoken: Shall the shadow go forward ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? And Hezekiah answered, it is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: Nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees. And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: And he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz. (II KINGS 20:8-11)

TEN DEGREES IS EXACTLY 40 MINUTES. 23 HOURS AND 20 MINUTES IN JOSHUA, PLUS 40 MINUTES IN II KINGS MAKE THE MISSING 24 HOURS THE SPACE TRAVELLERS HAD TO LOG IN THE LOG BOOK AS BEING THE MISSING DAY IN THE UNIVERSE. ISN'T THAT AMAZING? OUR GOD IS GOD!

CONTINUED FROM PG. 9

SUIT OF EASY THINGS MAKES US WEAK. IT IS SELDOM THE WORK THAT MAKES US TIRED. MORE LIKELY WE ARE TIRED BECAUSE OF THE WORK WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE.

WHEN THINGS ARE REALLY CLICKING FOR US, WE SELDOM GET TIRED, AND WE CAN THEN ACCOMPLISH MANY TIMES THE WORK WE PREVIOUSLY DID. FATIGUE IS CAUSED NOT BY WORK BUT BY WORRY, FRUSTRATION AND RESENTMENT. THE KITE ALWAYS RISES AGAINST THE WIND, NOT WITH IT. THE STRONGEST OAK TREE OF THE FOREST IS NOT THE ONE THAT IS PROTECTED FROM THE STORM AND HIDDEN FROM THE SUN, BUT THE ONE THAT STANDS IN THE OPEN WHERE IT IS COMPELLED TO STRUGGLE FOR ITS EXISTANCE AGAINST THE WINDS AND RAINS AND SCORCHING SUN. A GREAT OAK STRUGGLING IN THE WIND SENDS DOWN A STRONGER ROOT UPON THE WINDWARD SIDE. IN THE SAME WAY, THE LORD FITS THE HUMAN BACK TO THE BURDEN. WHEN WE ARE STRUGGLING, WE GROW. WHEN WE RETIRE SO THAT WE CAN TAKE THINGS EASY, WE ARE USUALLY ON OUR WAY OUT.

THE LAW OF SUCCESS SAYS THAT IDLENESS ALWAYS LEADS TO DETERIORATION AND DEATH, AND THESE SHOULD BE AVOIDED BY THOSE WHO WOULD BE STRONG.

(THE LAWS OF SUCCESS, STERLING W. SILL, DESERET BOOK COMPANY, 1980, P. 128-130)

"For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore, he receiveth no reward. Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness. For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. And inasmuch as men do good they shall in nowise lose their reward. But he that doeth not anything until he is commanded, and receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart, and keepeth it with slothfulness, the same is damned." (DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 58:26-29)

ELDER'S QUORUM LESSONS

APRIL 1982

- 4th General Conference
- 11th First Presidency Message (Ensign) - Pres Chesney
- 18th Lesson 10 - Honor thy Father and thy Mother/
Fireside: "Kingdom of God on Earth" -
Bro Hoover
- 25th Stake Conference

MAY 1982

- 2nd Lesson 11 - Improve Family Communications
- 9th First Presidency Message (Ensign) - Les Wilson
- 16th Lesson 12 - Teaching Children to Work
- 23rd Lesson 13 - Train up a Child
- 30th Lesson 14 - To Everything There is a Season



ROAD SHOW



Dolie Slater shows her acting talents, by portraying an elderly woman in the annual Oklahoma City Fourth Ward Roadshow, "The Ark of the Covenant." A-O PHOTO

YOUNG WOMEN

This past March was the Stake Roadshow. Our roadshow was about the Ark of the Covenant and was awarded the "Most Spiritual" Roadshow by the stake. Plus the award for best actress was given to Leslie Allen, out of all of the roadshows. We appreciate those youth who spent their Saturdays and Wednesdays in practicing for the roadshow. And a special thanks goes to sister Creel and sister Janes for directing the roadshow.

On Wednesday, May 19 we will be having our YW standards Evening. Sister Paulsen will be our speaker. We would like for each mother to come with her daughter that is of the age 12-18. This will be in the home of Sister Jared at 14801 S. Western at 7:00pm.

THE GIFT

The gasp from the crowd was audible
And a few smiles even vanished
As the mallet drove the first spike
Through the torn
and bleeding hand.

With haste and little care the other
monstrous nails were blasted through
his flesh and he was lifted, silent, naked,
Blood-covered and agonizing
Amid the jeers, the applause, the lust of
the ones he loved so dearly.

Dark clouds boild, winds tore at the rocky summit
As the people slapped and mocked and spit
and taught their children-yet in silence he
endured, weeping not in pain but pity for these
he loved had still so awfully far to go.

Eyes closed, he spoke often with his Father, who
stood very near, of Gethsemane and the torment
which left his blood to stain the ground
Atoning for this so great a sin and all others
past and yet to come.

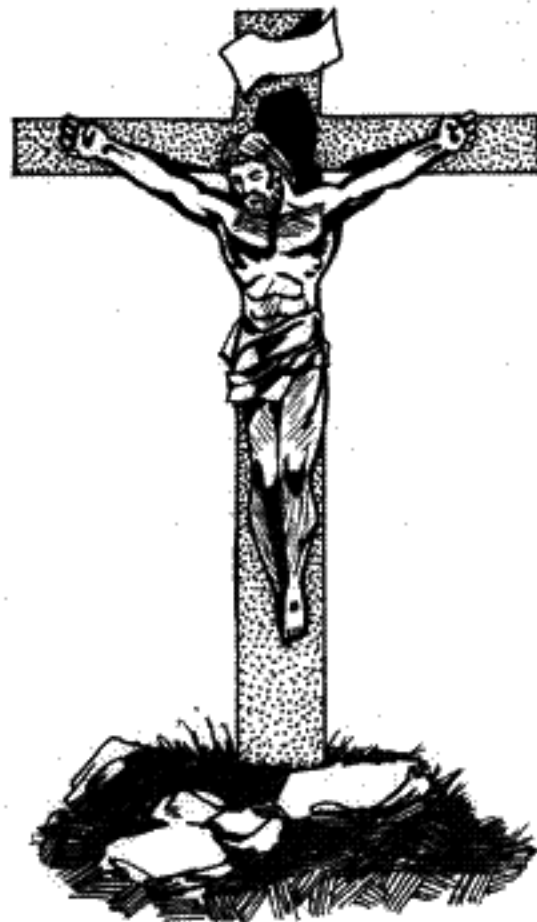
Anguish-filled hours dragged slowly by as he hung
trembling because of pain and suffering both body
and spirit till the Father in perfect love and
understanding withdrew.

Now alone and totally so the Son cried out in agony
of spirit, shrinking-MY GOD MY GOD Why hast thou
forsaken me?

And then a time only moments perhaps but longer
than all eternity when the Son, lonely still and
in silence partook of the bitter cup and
finished his sacrifice for the children of men.

Father, the glory be thine
I have given the gift thou sent me forth
to give-
My love for them is now perfect
that theirs may one day be.
It is finished!
Into thy hands, as always
I commend
my spirit.

-Blaine M. Yorgason



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