

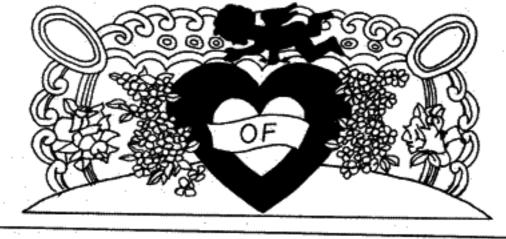
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

January 1982

Oklahoma City Fourth Ward

Volume 2 Number 1

THE GOSPEL



"Jesus said...thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." (MATT. 22:39) Of all the commandments which the Lord has given, the foremost and greatest of all is to LOVE. First, we must love our Father in Heaven with every fiber of our being, trusting his every counsel, and honoring his every expectation of us! Second, we must love our fellow man even to the degree that we love ourselves; hence the charge to "do unto others even as you would have others do unto you."

Jesus Christ was, in love, as he was in all things: the perfect example by which we may pattern our lives. Perfect in his love for our Heavenly Father in that he shunned any selfish or worldly pursuits to do the will of God. Perfect in his love for his fellow man in that he gave of himself, even suffering the greatest of anguish and showing compassion unto those who reviled against him, offering even his own life as a sacrifice for all those who lived, who now live and who will yet live. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." (JOHN 15:13)

The love of God is limitless and eternal, knowing no bounds or prejudices. It, like he, is perfect. Christ, instructing his disciples concerning love, said, "ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them which despitefully use you and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven: For he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? For sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? For sinners also even do the same. Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in Heaven is perfect." (MATT. 5:43-48, LUKE 6:31-36)

There is one noteworthy gentleman who persevered in living the admonitions of the Savior; who possessed both a love of God and of all men. He was an early Christian of the post-apostolic period, and is said to have performed valiant service in assisting Christian martyrs during their persecution under Emperor Claudius II in Rome. Giving aid and comfort to Christians at that time was looked upon as a crime; accordingly, he was arrested and imprisoned for it. For over a year, he suffered the grueling degradation of imprisonment, but he remembered the Lord and his teachings and endeavored to bless

CONTINUED PAGE 4





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 PECIAL INTEREST Robert Atchley Jr. Donnye 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 CTIVITIES DIRECTOR Joan Young

In the Lord's plan for the salvation of his children, he has made two points clear: (1) Jesus is the only name under Heaven by which authority is given for man's salvation (SEE ACTS 4:11-12; MOSIAH 5:8; D&C 18:23-25), and (2) every man and woman must accept the gospel and receive its ordinances by that authority or they cannot be saved. (SEE JOHN 3:5; MARK 16:15-16).

Those who had no opportunity to receive the gospel while in mortality will be given that opportunity in the spirit world. The necessary ordinances, however, must be performed for the dead by mortal people. The process of identifying ancestors and performing temple ordinances in their behalf is part of the geneological and temple work of the Church.

As a necessary preparation for their own salvation and for performing ordinances for the dead, the living must receive those same ordinances. Because many living members of the Church have not yet received their temple blessings, we should put great emphasis on encouraging them to do so.

All of us are aware that we will soon have a temple in Dallas. We are anticipating that we will have raised our share of the money required for building the temple by the end of the first week in February. As soon as all of the building permits and other matters have been taken care of, I am sure that there will be a ground-breaking and the beginning of construction so that the temple may be completed and dedicated sometime in 1983.

The question we must all ask ourselves at this point is what can and should we do to prepare ourselves so that when the temple is ready to open we are ready to make full use of it and receive the blessings that can only come through our involvement in temple work.

First of all, we must make sure that we have prepared ourselves so that we are worthy and eligible to go to the House of the Lord to perform the ordinances first for ourselves and our immediate families and then for our deceased family members. If we have already been to the temple, we should make sure that our recommends are current and up to date. For those who have not been to the temple, you have a year to get ready. Young people and others who are not eligible to go to the temple to do endowment work for the themselves should have recommends to do baptismal work for the dead. Thus every one 12 years of age or older should be able to have a temple recommend as long as they are worthy.

My challenge to each of you 12 years of age or older in the ward is to prepare yourselves so that you are able to have a recommend by this time next year. If you don't know what you need to do to prepare, call Brother Darrell Brooks and arrange for an interview with me to find out.

None of us can afford to be without the blessings of the temple. (MALACHI 4:5-6.) Joseph Smith has said "The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead." Each of us must see that we have done the work for ourselves and then that our own succestors are given the opportunity also.

I pray that we may all catch the vision of this great work and use the time we now have to prepare ourselves to be ready when the temple is completed.



Our Missionaries At Home and Abroad

On Sunday, January 17th, 1982, Oklahoma City Fourth Ward was the scene of somewhat mixed emotions. The event? A farewell to four very special young men; young men who will be deeply missed (expecially since the Young Adult force was cut almost in half). Yet we are content in our hearts to let them go. Why? Because they are doing what they want to do; what will make their families proud to say "My son"; what Heavenly Father wants them to do. They have accepted the call to serve full-time missions.

The callings were rewards for the hard-fought battles of the last few years; the final approval had been anxiously anticipated by the whole ward (and others besides) after these fastidious young men were finally able to submit their paperwork.

Let's drop back a few weeks and find out how eagerly anticipated were the days when the "silver bird" was boarded and its wings stretched forth to Salt Lake City and the "Heart of Zion". Their last weeks with us were not wasted; sure, there were regional dances to attend, parties to be guest-honored, last dates to be enjoyed. But our young friends carried on and even accepted new callings right to the end.

Although Dave Carlson's enthusiastic "Let's do it" and his eager "See what I'm saying?" will only echo in

our minds, Stockholm, Sweden, will surely welcome his enthusiastic and bouyant spirit.

Perhaps a great wonder, in the form of Amos Hedrick, was with us. Although in the Church for barely a year, he caught the missionary spirit and started charging. His earnest and caring spirit will definately be felt in Salt Lake City. Interestingly, this young man already had one conversion and baptism "under his belt" before he left - his girlfriend, Leslie. His absence, too, is deeply felt.

Although Frank went to Venice, Tom Bauder is wished much success in his Vienna, Austria, mission field. Tom's confident, sincere manner will serve him well in his assigned labor, where conversions are hard coming. We wish him much love, faith and patience.

The gentle, quiet presence of Daren Jared will find a place in Fresno, California. His quick smile and warm heart will win him friends and hopefully help the doors open wider.

Yes, the Fourth Ward will be somewhat empty without them, but we must remember that other people need them more than we do right now. We will always keep them in our hearts and prayers, and support them with our letters.

We will miss them; but we wouldn't wish it to be any other way.



L.to R. ELDER JARED, ELDER BAUDER, ELDER HEDRICK, ELDER CARLSON.



CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

MISSIONARIES CONT.

We recently received word from Elder Mark Atchley (would you believe a few minutes ago?) in which he relates the following occurrance: EVIDENTLY ELDER ATCHLEY WAS PREPARING TO DO SOME PROSELYTING WITH A STAKE MIS-SIONARY WHEN SUDDENLY HE BECAME AWARE THAT HIS BIKE WAS MISSING. AFTER A FUTILE SEARCH, HE CONTACTED THE POLICE AND GAVE THEM A DESCRIPTION OF THE BIKE; BUT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT IT WAS GONE FOR GOOD, NEVERTHELESS, ELDER ATCHLEY WENT OUT THAT EVENING TO DO THE LORD'S WORK, AND WHEN HE RETURNED FROM HIS APPOINTMENTS, HE SAID, "I sat there in my apartment thinking, 'What am I going to do without a bike?' I couldn't afford another one. I learned a big lesson - to take better care of my pos-SESSIONS!" THEN MARK'S COMPANION RETURNED AND SAID THAT HE THOUGHT HE SAW A KID RIDING HIS BICYCLE AT A NEARBY CONVENIENCE STORE. MARK THEN STATED, "He was Leaving the store and I met him in the parking lot. I asked him where he got the bike, 'cause it looked nice. said, 'My cousin let me ride it here. It's his bike really." AS ELDER ATCHLEY EXAMINED THE BIKE CLOSER, HE RECOGNIZED IT AS BEING HIS, AND TOLD THE YOUNG MAN SO. "He thought for a moment and said, 'Well, you guys wouldn't lie to me...and my cousin does "collect" bikes, so, here take it!' He got off and handed me the bike. I thanked him and we shook hands." WHEN HE GOT THE BIKE HOME, MARK EXAMINED IT FOR ANY DAMAGE, BUT DISCOVERED THAT THE BIKE HAD ACTUALLY BEEN FIXED, AND WAS BETTER THAN BEFORE! INCIDENTALLY, ELDER ATCHLEY IS NOW A SEN-IOR COMPANION, FOR WHICH WE OFFER HIM OUR "CONGRATULA-TIONS" AND, DUE TO HIS INCIDENT, WE URGE HIM TO RE-READ THE BOOK OF JOB, PAYING PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO VERSE 12 OF CHAPTER 42!

LOVE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

them that cursed him, do good to them that hated him, and pray for them which despitefully used him and persecuted him. During those long, painful hours of captivity, while others wallowed in self-pity over their afflictions, the imprisoned saint shared with his jailor his knowledge of the Gospel, and the peace and comfort he received from it. The dignity and demeanor of this early saint was impressive to his jailor, Asterius, one of the Emperor's lieutenants; and soon an alliance of friendship was forged between them.

Through Asterius' persuasion, he was arraigned before the Emperor. Claudius II was equally impressed and offered to suspend sentence on the Christian if he would deny his God and worship the pagan lords of Rome. To this he replied, "I say of thy gods none other thing but that they were men mortal and merchant and full of ordure and evill" In wrath the Emperor condemned him, first to be beaten with clubs, then stoned, and finally, to be beheaded outside the Flaminian Gate. In those last hours, while awaiting his impending destruction, he wrote his farewell epistle to Asterius and his family. There was not the slightest hint of regret in the letter, only kindness and compassion. After sharing his unfettered love, he bid them all farewell and signed his name: "From your Valentine."

St. Valentinus was executed on February 14th, 270 A.D. but continued to live on in the hearts of millions as a symbol of true love. His death, interestingly enough, occurred on the eve of the Lupercalia, a pagan festival in Rome which honored the gods of fertility. An important ceremony of this festival was the pairing of couples in which the male wore the name of his beloved pinned to his shirt sleeve. It is thought that from this practice came the saying, "He wears his heart on his sleeve." As Christianity grew in popularity the traditional holiday began to focus more on the love exemplified by St. Valentine, rather than the lusts of wicked men.

On this Valentine's Day and throughout the coming year, let us endeavor to cultivate the perfect love which Jesus possessed. In the words of the prophet Mormon: "... Charity is the pure love of Christ, and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day, it shall be well with him. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, pray unto the Father with all the energy of heart, that ye may be filled with this love, which he hath bestowed upon all who are true followers of his Son, Jesus Christ; that ye may become like him, for we shall see him as he is; that we may have this hope; that we may be purified even as he is pure. Amen." (MORONI 7:47-48)



YOUNG SPECIAL INTEREST SOCIALS AND GET-TOGETHERS

FOR FEBRUARY

February 7 Singles Fireside

Valentines Dance" February 12

February 13 **YSI** Activity February 14 Valentines Day/

Pizza Party

February 19 BUD ATCHLEY's 30th birthday!!! February 28 Pizza Party

Norman Stake Center - 7:30 p.m. Speaker - President Lazenby

Norman Stake Center - 8:00 p.m.

Young Special Interest, Norman Stake Center 6:00 p.m. (About \$5.00 per person.)

Young Special Interest, 6:00 p.m. (Meet at the Norman Stake Center, then on to Donnye Murley's apartment at 120 NE 21st, #218 behind UTOTEM. Phone number - 793-7221.)

*PLEASE ABIDE BY THE DRESS CODE OF THE CHURCH FOR THIS DANCE: MEN: FORMAL OR THE BEST THAT YOU OWN. WOMEN: FORMAL - NO PANTS - OR THE BEST THAT YOU OWN.

SPECIAL NOTE: MAY 28, 29 AND 30 AT UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, WE ARE HAVING A SINGLE ADULT CONFERENCE. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND. MORE DETAILS LATER.

DEDICATION*

Why do I love you? Why would I wish to spend the rest of my life, my eternities with you? Do I need time to think about these things? No: I can answer now.

I love you because you love life; the little thingsjust being. You love to love - people, places, things-

The Gospet.

I love you because you take time to do the little things to show you care - a touch as you walk by, a look across the room, a smile from out of no where, saying

"I Love you" even though we both know it.

I love you for loving others more than yourself; for giving two years of your life to teach others about the happiness that knowing Christ can bring; for sincerely striving to do all you can to help others; for freely and courageously professing this love in a hard and uncaring world.

I love you for the way you uphold your Church responsibilities - always quick to say "Yes, I'll do it," always busy, with willing heart and hands. Very special to me is the humility and respect with which you uphold the priesthood. To show the strength that the priesthood gives; the comfort, guidance, love it brings; not taking it lightly, but living it to its fullest, gaining the blessings which follow.

I love the way you comfort and protect and guide mewhen I'm frightened, sad or worried - the way you know just what to do and say. You are so strong, yet gentle and caring. You carry my burdens on your wide shoulders along with yours - and never complain.

I love you because you teach me to love others - of the love of our Savior; you show me how to give of my-self to the fullest; that in giving I find my true selfthe me that is a true daughter of God. I love you because you are a true son of God.

But I love you also when you are in despair and it seems like nothing is right. I hurt when you hurt; I want so much to take the hurt away and bear it all myself, to hold you in my arms and make the world go away until you are okay again. I love you when you fail, when you succeed; when you laugh, when you cry.

I love you more because of our children. Because they are a gift from Heaven; little bits and pieces of ourselves; symbols of our deep love for one another. Words cannot express the feeling that envelopes me each time I carry a new spirit inside me. Or the burning inside my heart as you play with the little ones. I thank my

Father every minute for your strength and caring. Can you see now? Can you understand how your faith your strength, your caring, your love are so important to me? Because I know that you always have Jesus Christ in your mind and your heart - because you constantly strive for perfection - I know that I am the luckiest girl in this world because you allow me to inspire and sustain you.

I WILL LOVE YOU FOREVER.

(The above passage is really nothing new; people have been saying and feeling it for centuries. But I hope that it will make its readers stop and realize what an influence the gospel is - what it really means. This passage is dedicated to a special friend who has helped me in more ways than he presently knows.)



If you were to break up a normal day into its routine and consider the amount of time involved you would probably come up with something similar to the following: 8 hours - employment, 8 hours - sleep, 8 hours shopping, hobbies, church activities, and so on. Needless to say, it doesn't leave us much time to do what we would like.

As a result, we all probably establish some system of establishing priorities to do what needs to be done or what we want to do the most. Consider, for example, your employment or training for employment and the amount of time devoted to it. Probably at least a third of your time is consumed in this area. All of that just so you can provide the necessities and luxuries of this life only.

You can see, then, that much of our time is now spent on matters pertaining to this life only. But what of the next life? As Elder LeGrand Richards said, "If it is worth spending 12 to 20 years to prepare for a life of 75 years, what is it worth to prepare for a life that never ends?" The point, then, is that we should make good use of our available time in terms of scripture study, fulfilling Church callings, being of service, and so on. To paraphrase Alma, now is the time to prepare to meet the Lord.

Institute is continuing on Thursday evenings at 7:30. Sister Susan Creel is an excellent instructor, teaching the second half of the course, "The Life of Jesus and His Apostles." Class is held in the Junior Sunday School Room, and all are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to continue our strides in gaining a testimony of and better learning to know our Savior.

ROADSHOW

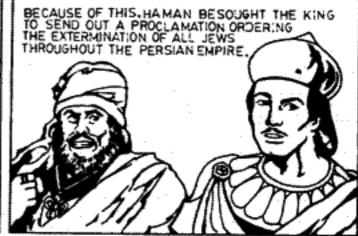
The MIA is actively engaged in preparing the perpetual roadshow. Practices are going strong and the youth are very excited about it. Morale is very high, and they are doing an excellent job. The entire project is being written, acted and partially directed by the youth themselves, with minimal assistance from the adults. The production is scheduled for Ward presentation on Priday, March 5th, and Stake competition on Saturday, March 6th, at Norman Stake Center.

The roadshow is a chance for the youth to work together, share experiences, discover and develop talents, and learn to share the message of the gospel with others. They need parent/family support as well as Ward support, so let's get enthusiastic about this, and really make Fourth a household name in Norman Stake. The youth of Oklahoma City Fourth are eager and proud to show what our Ward is made of; indeed, they are very fine representatives ou our closeness. So let's support and encourage our youth by attending their fine presentation.

(Neighbors and friends are encouraged and welcome, also. It has been requested that as many Ward members attend the Ward showing as possible so that it won't be crowded at Norman for the Competition.)
LET'S DO IT!!!







IN DEFIANCE OF PERSIAN LAW THE QUEEN WENT BEFORE KING AHASURRUS WITHOUT INVITATION, RISKING HER LIFE TO PLEAD FOR THE JEWS...

AS A RESULT OF THE QUEENS INTERCESSION, THE KING HAD HAMAN HUNG ON THE GALLOWS WHICH

AS A RESULT OF THE QUEENS INTERCESSION, THE KING HAD HAMAN HUNG ON THE GALLOWS WHICH WERE MEANT FOR MORDECAL, AND APPOINTED THE JEW AS PRIME MINISTER! BUT THE PROCLAMATION COULDN'T BE REVERSED!

CAN YOU TELL

.. THE NAME OF THE QUEEN?

...WHY SHE PLEADED FOR THE JEWS ?

... WHY MORDECAI WAS APPOINTED IN HAMAN'S STEAD?

.. HOW THE JEWS ESCAPED ANIHILATION?



ANSWERS: 1-The Queen was Esther...?-She herself was an Isrealite, though her husband did not know it...3-Mordecal was Esther's cousin and guardian. He earlier demonstrated his loyalty to the King in uncovering an assassination plot...4-A new proclamation went forth commanding the Jews to take up arms against their enemies, thus discouraging the first order.

YOUNG ADULTS

During the meridian of time, when the Savior of the World walked in mortality, he told the Jews of Antiquity, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures." (MATT. 22:29) and commanded, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." (JCHN 5:39) The scriptures to which Jesus specifically referred the Jews, were the

inspired writings of the prophets contained in the Old Testament. The Church-wide study for 1982 is the second half of the Old Testament (1KINGS-MALACHI). These books of the Old Testament are also the reading assignment for the Single's Gospel Doctrine Class during the same period of time. Following is the suggested reading schedule for this study:

JANUARY	JOB, IKINGS 1-8
FEBRUARY	IKINGS 9-11, PROVERBS, ECCLESIASTES
MARCH	1KINGS 12-22, 1CHRONICLES 22, 28-29, 2CHRONICLES 29-31, 2KINGS 1-14, JONAH
APRIL	HOSEA, MICAH, AMOS
MAY	2KINGS 15-17, ISAIAH 1-12
JUNE	ISAIAH 13-35, 40-53, NAHUM
JULY	ISAIAH 36-39, 54-66, 2KINGS 18-25, ZEPHANIA, HABAKKUK
AUGUST	JEREMIAH 1-29
SEPTEMBER	JEREMIAH 30-52, LAMENTATIONS, EZEKIEL 1-33
OCTOBER	EZEKIAL 34-48, DANIEL
NOVEMBER	ESTHER, EZRA, HAGGAI, NEHEMIAH
DECEMBER	JOEL, ZECHARIAH, OBADIAH, MALACHI

I would urge all Young Adults attending the Singles Gospel Doctrine Class during Sunday School to make good use of this study schedule during your personal study time! Keeping a notebook in which to write notes, observations and questions will be of particular benefit to your study of the scriptures, and will stir within you a greater joy in class participation.

"For this cause we also...do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God." (COLOSSIANS 1:9-10)

GARY J. SATTERLEE YOUNG ADULT MALE REPRESENTATIVE



Visiting Teacher Preparation meetings will no longer be held at 7:00 p. m. on the first Wednesday of each month in conjunction with the Homemaking Meeting. The Visiting Teacher message will be taught on the fifth Sundays. The message is in the 1982 Relief Society Manual.

The Homemaking lesson will be taught on the first Wednesday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. The balance of the evening will be used for mini-classes.

Mini-classes for February are: Quilting Color coordination of makeup and clothing Clean out attic and finish unfinished articles

Welcome to the Primary sisters who have recently returned to the Sunday Relief Society meetings.



With the new year, Primary, too, has many new changes. We have many new teachers that we'd like to welcome. They are Lita Orr, Virginia Woods, Cris Willdon, Philenese Slaughter, Sherri Greene, Susan Seymore, Sherry Edwards, Jack Cuppy and David Pitts. Our new Inservice Leader is Nancy Allen; our new pianist is Darlene Cook; and our new chorister is Mary Hulsman.

In the past, parents have been invited to opening excercises when their children were giving a talk or participating in other ways. Now we will be having closing exercises where parents are also invited, beginning at 11:35. Afterwards, the Sunbeams will remain in the chapel until they are picked up by a parent or an older brother or sister. Please be prompt in picking up your Sunbeams, as the teachers also need to attend to their families. We would also like to express the need for parents to pick up their children in the nursery within five minutes after the last bell. Your cooperation is appreciated by all Primary teachers. We are grateful for the opportunity to teach your children.

I know who you are, and you know who I am; We stand together, forever - Woman and Man. We know how it feels to be loved, and love. The blessings pour in from far, far above.

We stand together as the rain falls down; We laugh and we cry, serious and clown. We love each other, and will never part; We hold together with all our heart.

We'll teach our children to be like God And lead the path for their feet to trod. We'll teach them about the right and wrong; We'll teach them to praise in the words of a song.

They will grow, and teach their children, too To stand together in the things they do. I know who you are, and you know who I am; We stand together -

Forever -

Woman and Man.





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