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# THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

"HE THAT HATH MY COMMANDMENTS, AND KEEPETH THEM, HE IT IS THAT LOVETH ME: AND HE THAT LOVETH ME SHALL BE LOVED OF MY FATHER, AND I WILL LOVE HIM, AND I WILL MANIFEST MYSELF TO HIM."  
—*Jesus Christ. (John xiv, 21).*

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## W A R N I N G .

A PROPHECY has been fulfilled by an holy angel flying "in the midst of heaven," and restoring the Everlasting Gospel to the earth through Joseph Smith. A messenger, or angel, who "said his name was John, the same that is called John the Baptist in the New Testament," conferred the Aaronic Priesthood upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery; and, according to a promise of this heavenly messenger, the Melchisedec Priesthood and Apostleship was restored under the hands of Peter, James and John. Thus after ages of darkness, superstition, error and false worship, men once more received from God the necessary authority "to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof." After the laws of the Church were transgressed, the ordinances changed, and the everlasting covenants were broken, which transpired during the early centuries of the Christian era, and until the authority referred to above was restored to the earth, all religions, whatever their appellations may have been, were perversions of the Gospel of Christ. A.D. 1830, the

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized. The Gospel in its fullness has been preached since then by the Lord's authorized servants. It has been accepted willingly by hundreds of thousands of people, and they enjoy all the gifts and blessings that characterized the true Gospel anciently. Good, honest, virtuous men have had the holy priesthood, which is the authority of God, conferred upon them, and as a commandment has been given in this dispensation similar to the commission: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel," given to the apostles by the Son of God when He dwelt on the earth among men, many have been called, chosen, and ordained unto this mission, and are scattered throughout the nations of the earth, and are known as "Mormon" missionaries. The servants of God in all dispensations have been instructed to warn the inhabitants of the earth of judgments that would come upon them for their unrighteousness, if they did not manifest humility, repent of their wickedness, and render obedience to

the requirements of His will. So also have the "Mormon" Elders, who are the servants of God in this dispensation, received similar instructions, and are now busily engaged crying repentance to this generation. They are taking advantage of every opportunity afforded them to warn the people of the dreadful calamities that will overtake them if they reject their testimonies. In the days of Noah, "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." "Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations," and "found grace in the eyes of the Lord." He, according to the commandments of the Lord, cried repentance to the people of his time for one hundred and twenty years, and warned them of the deluge God would send because of the corruption of the world. "The unbelieving people of his day, who had not faith, derided and refused to accept his testimony, and the result was that Noah and his household were saved, while destruction overtook the unbelievers." Lot and his wife and two daughters, being warned by angels, made good their escape from Sodom. "Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire." "And He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities." Had not those who were saved from this horrible calamity given heed to the warning they received, they also would have perished with the vicious Sodomites. Lot's wife afterwards disobeyed a warning, with the result that she "became a pillar of salt." In 2 Kings vi, 8-10, we read that the king of Israel being warned of the whereabouts of the camp of the king of Syria, avoided it, and so averted a grave danger to his people.

Ancient history teaches us that the Prophet Jonah was commanded to go to Nineveh and cry against it, because of the wickedness of the people; but Jonah was afraid to deliver such a message, though the Lord had sent him, consequently he took ship and departed for Tarshish. When out at sea, however, there arose a tremendous tempest, so that the vessel

was about to be lost, upon which Jonah's conscience reproached him: he made known his disobedience, and, according to his request, he was thrown into the sea, and was swallowed by a fish the Lord had prepared for this purpose. Jonah was kept alive in the fish's belly three days and three nights, after which he was cast out of its mouth on dry land. Jonah went to Nineveh after being commanded the second time by the Lord, and cried aloud in the hearing of the king and people, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be destroyed." The king came down from his throne and disrobed himself of his royal garments, after hearing this dreadful threatening from the mouth of the Lord's servant, and clothed himself in sackcloth and sat in ashes, and fasted and prayed night and day. So also did his nobles, and all the people of the land, covering the very beasts with sackcloth. They hearkened to the warning of the servant of God and were spared. But the repentance of the Ninevites not being lasting, the city was afterwards destroyed by Cyaxares, king of Media.

The Lord sent the Prophet Ezekiel with a warning to Israel, and said to him: "So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me. When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die; if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand" (Ez. xxxiii, 7, 8). Ezekiel could only remove this serious responsibility by faithfully performing his duty, as the following verse implies: "Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it: if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul."

We will now review a few circumstances that transpired in the New Testament dispensation. A prophecy was also fulfilled "when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king." The wise men out of the east were directed to Him by a star. Herod commanded

them to bring him word when they had found Jesus. But "being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way." This warning, in addition to the one Joseph received from an angel, was salvation to the Savior at that time, and prevented Herod, the cruel, inhuman, and barbarous king, accomplishing his wicked purpose. John the Baptist, the Savior's forerunner, warned the people in the wilderness of Judea, saying: "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and preaching the "baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." He was afterwards cast into prison. Then Jesus Himself went from the "wilderness" to Galilee with a similar warning, crying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel." In the 23rd chapter of Matthew, we read of Him condemning the evil examples of the Scribes and Pharisees for their hypocrisy and blindness, because they built the tombs of "the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, and say, if we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets." He then promised to send them prophets, wise men and scribes, then added, "some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city." We also read of Him walking by the Sea of Galilee, and seeing some fishermen "saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." They obeyed and followed Him. Ultimately Jesus had a quorum of Twelve Apostles. He sent them into *all the world* to preach the Gospel to *every creature*, and to warn them against false religious systems and all unrighteousness. "The Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two," with the necessary authority, so that their warnings and testimonies were a savor of death unto death to those who rejected them, and a savor of life unto life to those who accepted them and obeyed the Gospel. The Apostle Paul was a chosen vessel unto God to bear His

name before the gentiles and kings. This may account for his miraculous conversion. He was very zealous, realizing the importance of his mission, and for three years "ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears." Jesus, after condemning the hypocrisy of the Scribes and Pharisees, and promising to send them prophets and wise men, uttered a prophecy in relation to their treatment which, according to history, has been fulfilled. Through the martyrdom of the servants of God and the cruel persecution of the Saints, the priesthood was taken from the earth. Hence the necessity of it being restored to the earth in fulfillment of Rev. xiv, 6.

As the Latter-day Saints are the only people that claim this restoration, all other people must still be groping in religious darkness. The "Mormon" missionaries *know* a dispensation of the Gospel has been delivered to them with authority to "administer in the ordinances thereof," and whatsoever they bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever they loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven (Matt. xviii, 8). Their mission of warning being similar to the Prophet Ezekiel's, they can only remove the serious responsibilities resting upon them by faithfully discharging their duty. In solemnity they testify that God has again spoken from heaven, that the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its fullness has been restored to the earth, and after their testimonies "cometh the testimony of earthquakes that shall cause groanings in the midst of her, \* \* \* and also cometh the testimony of the voice of thunderings, and the voice of lightnings, and the voice of tempests, and the voice of the waves of the sea, heaving themselves beyond their bounds;" and that these judgments, in addition to others, will burst upon this generation for their unrighteousness. Comparing the calamities that have overtaken the people during the past sixty years, since this warning has been cried aloud, with the calamities of the sixty years preceding the warning, we find the judgments of the latter period have been greatly multiplied (See MILL. STAR, vol. 51, No. 28, 29, 30),

