

ABOUT MYSELF

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WHAT I AM.

I AM one of three thousand men and women, mostly young, who in all parts of the earth are giving, voluntarily, several years of their lives to missionary work.

I am not school trained for the ministry, nor am I a professional preacher. I am one of a numerous people, all of whom learn to know the principles of their religion and are therefore able to teach and defend their faith.

I earn my livelihood, when at home, by one of the ordinary occupations of life—from manual labour to professional service.

My worthiness as man and teacher is proved by the permission granted me and my colleagues by government authorities to labour in every civilized country. Our century-old record as supporters of the civil and moral law is unblemished.

WHAT I DO.

At the call of the Church I have left my vocation and am voluntarily devoting two years or more, at my own expense and without pay, to promulgate eternal truth as I understand it. This has been done by tens of thousands of my fellow believers during the last one hundred years. It is the greatest voluntary missionary system in the world.

When my mission is ended, I shall return to my business, until, perhaps, I accept another call upon the same terms.

Most of the men and many of the women of the Church to which I belong give missionary service at some time to the Church in this unique manner. Naturally my people are well-travelled, cosmopolitan and cultured.

HOW I AM SUPPORTED.

My fellow-labourers and I are able to make the sacrifice of time and money required by our missions, by using our savings or by securing assistance from our relatives and friends.

Many a poor widow works hard to keep her son in the mission field ; many a wife toils at home to support her absent missionary husband ; many a sacrifice is made by parents, sisters and brothers for the missionary member of the family.

These sacrifices are made gladly ; and none is poorer for this unselfish service. Sacrifice brings blessings.

WHY I DO THIS WORK.

The force that impels me to make the sacrifice represented by this vast, unequalled missionary system is my sincere belief.

1. That my message is the priceless gift of certain truth, intended for all humanity, not for a favoured few.
2. That my message has the power, if used, to enrich mankind, beyond measure, in daily happiness on earth and in the life hereafter.

3. That to help my fellowman, unselfishly, to find and tread the path to daily happiness, is a religious obligation which will yield me unbounded joy.

MY MESSAGE.

I present a practical and spiritual philosophy of life which has the power, if used, to enliven body and soul, and to sweeten every duty, act and joy of life. It makes possible better physical health, economic prosperity, social satisfaction, and spiritual uplifting. It comprehends all truth, whether of science, philosophy or religion. It includes, harmonizes, and moulds into one system, the truth of every cult, creed, sect, or uplifting agency. It has courage to accept and teach and defend truth.

I offer a rational, understandable religion, fitting this day of progress, which gives direction to every human endeavour. That is, a living religion ; ready to deal with the problems of every-day life ; directed by its own adherents and not by a special Priesthood class.

I teach that this living, virile religion is possessed by the Church established by Jesus Christ.

I affirm that the Church of Jesus Christ, in its original fullness, was re-established one hundred years ago by direct revelation from God, under the name of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and that to it is committed the authority of the Holy Priesthood.

The history of the Church in a hundred years is an evidence of the truth and vitality of this religion. The Church has made heavy sacrifices to secure for its members unmolested freedom, under the law, of thought and action, yet it has grown to great prominence in the world. It has built cities and conquered deserts and brought prosperity, contentment, and spiritual understanding to its many members in all parts of the world. Its communities are active, happy and prosperous.

Upon the re-established Church has been placed the divine obligation of presenting to every human being the possibilities of this eternal plan of life.

MY METHOD OF WORK.

I use every honourable method of presenting my message. I call from door to door to explain the truths of the Gospel by tracts or by word of mouth to all who may be interested. I hold street meetings wherever they are allowed. I make exhibits showing the fruits of the Gospel. I speak in the chapels of the

church or from the lecture platform. I write for the press when I have the opportunity. I feel that the importance of my message justifies the use of every lawful instrument for its promulgation.

Since I have no quarrel with any church or search for truth, and respect the right of every person to answer for himself all life's questions, I seek, fearlessly, every proper opportunity to present my message to every man and woman of rational understanding.

I welcome new means for bearing witness of my sober beliefs.

MY APPEAL.

I request all people to remember that the silly tales about the Latter-day Saints, or "Mormons" as they are miscalled, have been fully disproved; and that few places on earth are visited by more world travellers than the headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Unfounded and unjustified prejudice should not prevent an honest examination of Latter-day Saint faith and belief.

I plead with all people who love liberty, righteousness and truth to give me a hearing, and then to weigh my message in their own minds. In the words of Paul, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

I request the further privilege of supplying all who are interested with information concerning the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Thus I introduce myself.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a religious organization of the truth and vitality of this religion. The Church has made heavy sacrifices to secure for its members unimpaired freedom, under the law of thought and action, yet it has grown to great prominence in the world. It has built cities and temples, deserts and barren mountains, and spiritual understanding in its many members in all parts of the world. Its commandments are simple, happy and progressive. Upon the re-established Church has been placed the obligation of presenting to every human being the possibility of this eternal plan of life.

MY METHOD OF WORK.

I use every honorable method of presenting my message. I call from door to door to explain the truth and to answer questions. I am a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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Centennial Series No. 1.

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