

## Danny's Testimony.

On a cold day, November 2, 1960 I was Baptized and Confirmed a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. First communion was November 6, 1960.

I was given a little book, "Junior Member's Manual".

In this manual are the words, "The sacrament of the Lord's Supper or Communion is for members only. Other people may attend our Communion service, but only members may partake of the bread and wine."

Later in this manual it says, "When the Prophet Joseph Smith was a boy he read in the Bible, in the book of James, the first chapter and the fifth verse, these words; "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." He believed that was true. He went to God in prayer, and God directed him."

The above is the foundation and focus of my testimony.

Over the years, I have attended Sunday school classes, heard sermons at church and reunions that have taught all this and so much more.

And then the changes and/or desire for changes started happening, some more obvious than others. People started telling me that 'We don't say this anymore' or 'We don't do that anymore'. I politely asked one person not to use the word 'we' when you say that because I still say those things and I still do those things. Whatever 'things' that person was referring to.

One summer evening at a Harvest House (church related) meeting there was a quite heated discussion about if women should be in the priesthood or not. There were a few who kept quoting some negative sounding scripture that seemed completely unrelated to this subject and was certainly not convincing to me. I was one of the few left who raised my hand in support of the idea of women in priesthood even though I was not really sure about it at that time. I eventually stopped raising my hand just so those negative people would stop!

Later, I was thinking about this and thus began a long and important series of combined testimonies in my life! The central theme of all this is to ask God, "What do You say?" and when one asks God what does He say concerning something, as promised by Jesus, He will answer! In His own time of course but you can count on it!

So in thinking about what Jesus said and about if women should be in the priesthood or not I said a prayer. In the prayer I told God that there are scriptures that seem to say that women should not be in the priesthood but they just don't come right out and say so. There are those who tell me that women should not be in the priesthood and those who say they should. So I asked God, "What do YOU Say?" and then I closed my prayer.

The next spring there was a conference and at that conference what became section 156 was revealed. I knew from reading it that God had just answered my prayer concerning women in the priesthood. And I was excited and ready to celebrate!

### **A Series of Dreams.**

Sadly, soon after section 156 came out there was a lot of contention against it. I was all upset, in fact too much upset because of the contention against it and others were all upset because of section 156 and even others were all upset because of the contention both ways.

So sometime later on I said my prayer and asked God what is all of this leading to? Soon after that I had a series of dreams about the future of the church. The reason for a series of dreams is because there was more to be revealed than what could fit in any one dream. Note: I have had a number of 'series of dreams' about the church over the years.

What happened in the dreams to a certain extent was symbolic of what would happen and not necessarily literally. I saw times of contention with people going their own ways and looking for a following. I saw where at times I was doing a number of different things for the church. Some I had not yet done and some I had already done. Still, the biggest problem was all of the noise of the contentions!

Finally, the last few dreams. These last dreams all focused on what was then known as the West College congregation. This is because it was my childhood congregation and where I was baptized and confirmed a member of the church.

In one dream there was darkness, a spiritual darkness, sort of like a dark cloudy day. I was standing at the back entrance to the sanctuary on the west side looking in. The sanctuary was an empty shell. No pews, piano, organ, pulpit and the entire north wall (front) was missing. I could see the trees moving in a cold wind. This was a bit scary as well as quite troubling! The only good and peaceful thing I could think about was that it was finally quiet and there were no more noises from all of the contentions. I felt led by the Spirit that this would be a very short period of time.

A note about the darkness: When I was still a kid I got my first copy of the King James Version of the Bible. I had only been using the Inspired Version. I opened it to see what it was all about. There was this strange darkness in it. The light that I see in the Inspired Version was not there! This is a spiritual experience. Because plain and precious truths have been removed by men over the years, the King James Version did not have the gospel light that the Inspired Version has. I also have seen this same darkness when I saw the Mormon Temple in Utah and in the one dream I had in the series about the church at West College. It is a very scary and troubling kind of darkness!

The next dream in the series the light returned. There were still no pews, piano, organ or pulpit but the north wall was back. There was a little pile of dirt that had been swept up to indicate that it had all been in the process of being cleaned.

Next dream, everything was there! All shiny and new and perfectly clean! It was in this dream that I finally left the place I was standing at the entrance and walked up to the pulpit. I was so excited and

happy. When I got there I turned and had a brief let down when I said, but there are no people! Right after I said that they all started coming in with big smiles on their faces and were all very happy.

I noticed not only those who came in but those who didn't. Those who didn't would later leave the church because of their opposition to section 156.

All of those dreams in that series happened during the 1980's.

### **More of What Do You Say...**

During the times of contentions against section 156 there were a lot of people who kept telling me that it would lead to open communion. I told them that there was no way this would happen. Imagine my great disappointment when it did! Understatement!

At the time it happened I was at first 100% against it because of what the dissenters had told me. I later thought about it and it occurred to me that this was really a very wrong reason to be against it. So I decided to think about it and ask others. I soon got to the point where I was something like 99.9% in favor of it. In fact at one time I told my mom that I decided that I was in favor of it but deep inside I really wasn't quite over the line of being 100% sure. I just couldn't be rock solid about it.

So I remembered what I had previously done when it came to women in the priesthood and had asked God, 'what does He say about that.' So I asked God what do You say about open communion. At that time I was not attending church much. I was not involved in anything in particular. So a little later on it was communion Sunday and I had no intention of going to church. But there was that little voice that kept telling me to go. Go to church, go to church and go to church, so I finally said alright I am going already.

So I get there and I plopped down in a pew. Soon after an elderly man walked down the aisle and put his hand on my hand which was up on the edge of the pew. I felt as if Jesus was touching me through this elderly man. The elderly man just smiled but didn't say anything and then walked on.

Later on it was time for the communion message. I saw the elderly man stand up to give it. I thought 'wow' that he is the one who is doing it. Even so, I let my mind wander a bit but then there was that voice again telling me to listen to him. Listen to him, listen to him and listen to him. So I said in my mind, alright I will listen to him.

I heard him say that when we take the communion that we were renewing the covenant we made at baptism. Those words stood out real strong! I then remembered my prayer about open communion and then I realized that if one has not yet made this covenant then one cannot renew it. And at that time, for me, the only way to really make this covenant was to be baptized into this church. So I went from being 99.9% in favor of open communion to being 100% against it. Even as serving others whatever they call it. I realized that God had once again answered my prayer concerning what He says! In this case, about open communion!

Later on the Church name changed. I was not fond of that so I asked God what does he say and this time I felt from his answer that this is His will. So I accepted it.

Later on I saw resolutions at conference where some wanted to allow people to become members of the church without being re-baptized. Thankfully these early resolutions were ruled out of order and no further action was taken on them.

One BIG problem was that they were considering anyone from any other church and ANY baptism! To do so would mean to include those who would say they were baptized when they were babies. Well, that just didn't seem right to me. So once again it was time to think about it for a bit and then pray and ask God what does he say about it and so I did.

Immediately after I closed my prayer I heard the voice tell me to get my big three in one. So I did. Then I heard the voice tell me to open it. When I did, the first thing I saw was The Book of Mormon, the Book of Moroni chapter 8, verse 10, "...it is a solemn mockery before God that you should baptize little children." Did any of those who presented those early resolutions concerning baptism and membership think that it is ok for little children to be baptized, even babies? The Book of Mormon has plenty to say about that!

### **Something That Troubled Me.**

In that series of dreams the one with the north wall missing. I had told a number of people about those dreams but sometimes I skipped the part about the wall because it troubled me a lot. I did not know what it meant.

So in more recent years and I cannot remember exactly when I was thinking about this I decided to ask God what it meant in the dream about that north wall. I figured that when it is Gods time for me to know, I will.

So very recently Steve Veazey reveals the document for the 2010 world conference. A little while after he does, I am very upset and not thinking much good about it. Soon I calm down and start thinking about what was said and all. All of a sudden out of no-where I remembered my prayer about the north wall. I just realized that my prayer about it has just been answered!

That north wall at what was then the West College Congregation has the baptismal fount that I was baptized in when I became a member of this church. It also has related stuff such as the dressing rooms and whatever. The north wall and the included baptismal fount were missing because they had taken the re-baptism out in that document! That is what that part of the dream more than 20 years before meant!!! Through my previous dream, my prayer as to what it meant and the answer to my prayer, I had a confirmation experience that not only is the part of the document about re-baptism and the change of condition of membership not of God but is also **NOT** God's will!

So it is impossible for me to vote for this document as it is now.

This testimony is still ongoing. Even if the errant document is approved, it will not stand, at least not for long. A short time according to my dream can be whatever amount of time for me.

As in my dreams, the church will be cleansed, all things will be made new and God's will, will be done for HIS church!

End of Testimony.

### **My Thoughts on the 2010 World Conference.**

This part will be updated periodically.

Before I read the resolutions and before the 'Document' was presented I decided to do a 'What do You say' prayer ahead of time. I asked to know what His will is concerning the issues for the conference even before I knew what they would be. Of course, once I knew, I wanted to know what His will is. Being that this is my first time ever of being a delegate I want to do my best in representing the church and voting according to God's will and not my own. I want guidance from God.

It was because of this prayer that I had my experience in remembering my earlier prayer about why that north wall was missing at the West College church.

After I heard Mr. Veazey reveal the document I downloaded the PDF version of it to save and read later on. I was trying to think of a name to give a folder for it and after a little bit it became obvious that it should be called, "Too Many Questions". This is because there were simply way too many questions than answers!

Recently there was a video interview of Mr. Veazey by Linda Booth. I viewed most of it and downloaded the PDF file so I would know what was being said. My speech hearing is poor and I do not hear the words very well. A copy of the PDF file is at [www.vidmus.com/vb.pdf](http://www.vidmus.com/vb.pdf)

In the interview Linda asked the following,

L: In paragraphs one through three in the counsel to the church, you deal with those foundations. The foundations that were there in which the counsel says were proper to insure the rise and cohesiveness of the church during its early development and in the following years. You're referring to baptismal practices there. However, it also says a growing number have come to understand the "redemptive action of God and Christ while uniquely and authoritatively expressed through the church is not confined solely to the church." Can you please explain what that means?

Steve's reply included an experience he had about meeting a man who is a Christian from a country that "... goes to great extents, extremes to suppress Christianity." And Mr. Veazey later says, "I experienced the affirmation of the Holy Spirit saying to me that I needed to respect this man's commitment and that it wasn't appropriate to require him to be re-baptized—that his baptism was genuine in terms of the fruits of discipleship that were evident in his life."

Were there not others like this man in 1830, in 1930, in whatever year(s)? Seems to me if this should be true of this man that would it not also be true of others like him, even in years past? This leads to way too many unanswered questions.

What deeply troubles me is how is it possible that in April 1830, the Holy Spirit can tell Joseph Smith Jr. what is now in section 20 of the Doctrine and Covenants and almost 200 years later tell Mr. Veazey this?

Is God a changeable, partial or temporary God?

What is in section 20 is plain, clear and rock solid. What Mr. Veazey says in his questionable experience leads to way too many questions!

I honestly feel that what Mr. Veazey experienced was not an affirmation of the Holy Spirit! It is not possible for God to say one thing in April 1830 and then almost 200 years later say something different.

As for the part about, "...The foundations that were there in which the counsel says were proper to insure the rise and cohesiveness of the church during its early development and in the following years" I feel that Mr. Veazey did not answer this question at all and is one of many questions left unanswered.

When I consider my own testimony covering more than 20 years, what is said in Section 20 of the Doctrine and Covenants and the Book of Mormon and what has been confirmed and re-confirmed to me for many years that I have been a member of this Church I can't help feel the re-baptism is as rock solid today as it always has been and will continue to be. Without unanswered questions!

What Mr. Veazey offers in the errant part of the document considering conditions of membership, leads to way too many unanswered questions and he is asking us to accept that God can tell Joseph Smith Jr. one thing in April 1830 and now a different thing almost 200 years later!

Just looking at my own testimony, it is impossible for me to vote for this errant part of the document. And if the errant part remains, then it will be impossible for me to vote for any part of it! I would have to deny my own experiences, testimony, prayers and Gods answers to my prayers to do so!

My mind is not literally closed on this but it would take an incredible amount of 'whatever' to convince me to disregard my own testimony concerning the issue of re-baptism and the condition of membership into the church.

#### **And Finally.**

I have worded this as best I can. If any of this offends someone, then sorry, but I do not and cannot apologize for what I know is true from my own testimony!

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