

## THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

*A year ago, on Christmas Eve, Joel Gibson found out that he was to be the new rector of the Church of Ascension. Later, there was an installation ceremony; and as a part of that ceremony, Joel was presented with a number of symbolic gifts...gifts of his Office...much as the Christ Child was presented gifts so long ago, I suppose. But there was someone in the congregation who didn't know it was all symbolic and wanted to give a gift, too...but had nothing to give.*

*The following describes what "came" during that ceremony; and although any description seems inadequate for such a gift, still it's a gift to be shared...and is meant, perhaps, for each of us to open in our own unique way on every morning...with Christmas in our hearts. (December 1980)*

### An Answer to a Prayer

A long time ago, there was a ray of light that traveled to earth from heaven and warmed the very hearts of men. It was reflected off of many things, but then it encountered a man-made object of glass. (Eventually, this object would be known as a "prism.") And as it encountered this glass, the light was not surprised to find itself bent...and broken into its many colors.

But, when one man saw the "red," he said, "That's the light" ...  
and when another saw the "blue," he said, "That's the light!" ...  
and so on and so on.

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And then, many years later, Man discovered that the “pieces” were really a part of the whole; and (as all children learn as they grow a bit in understanding) the thing that had been taken apart could be put back together, again.

And, behold, now it begins...a beautiful new age of joining is upon us; and the things that have been separated will soon be seen in their “true light”...and a oneness of God will fill the world. Where truth has been seen in its many forms (some even perceived as separate from God), a joining together begins...and all truths will be seen in the light of God.

A thing that was taken apart, to discover how it worked, will be built anew...with greater understanding in the process...and a new stage in Mankind’s growth, a bright new age, begins.

Praise the Lord. Thanks be to God.

(June 5, 1980)