

~~From Daniel, 21 Nov. 1990~~

3

Actually dated: Wednesday, December 5, 1990

Dear Mom and Dad,

I haven't gotten my letters yet, so I don't know what's going on with you guys right now. I think of you both daily, and I love and miss you very much, although I'm grateful to be serving a mission and wouldn't be anywhere else.

I love you both so much. I'm so grateful that the Lord permitted me to have you for my parents. What a blessing it is in today's world to have two ex-missionaries for parents. From you both I inherited the testimony and faith which is the foundation and joy of my life. I wouldn't give up my religion or my family for anything.

I'm so grateful to the Lord for helping me get safely to my mission. He has taught me things here which I could not have been prepared to accept anywhere else. I don't feel that anybody can truly understand the awful state of today's world if they aren't serving a mission or have served one before. The only thing that keeps us from being swept off the face of the earth is the fact that there are still people who are waiting to hear and accept the gospel.

As technology and communication improves and becomes faster and more efficient more and more shall come to a knowledge of the truth. Some day everyone will have had the opportunity. When that day comes, we had better be prepared with food storage and personal righteousness. If we obey the prophets, we will be prepared and have nothing to fear.

I am praying for you, and I love you two more each day. *iltasta la vista!* (? - something like that!--whatever that means!)

Smiley face. Love, your son,

Elder Daniel H. Bartholomew

(Separate Page: In response to some comments I made in a letter to him, Daniel makes comments which encourage me in the hope for numerous grandchildren (my smiley face):

"FOR MY MOTHER (AS IF IT WERE NECESSARY - SMILEY FACE)

The following quote is from the book, Doctrines of Salvation, which was written by a special man named Joseph Fielding Smith. The book was compiled by a nother special nam, Bruce R. McConkie (Book 2, page 88):

*BIRTH CONTROL LEADS TO DAMNATION. Instructing the mothers of the Church, President Joseph F. Smith said in June 1917: I regret, I think it is a crying evil that there should exist a sentiment or a feeling among any members of the Church to curtail the birth of their children. I think that is a crime wherever it occurs, where husband and wife are in possession of health and vigor and are free from impurities that would be entailed upon their posterity. I believe that where people undertake to curtail or prevent the birth of their children that they are going to reap disappointment by and by. I have no hesitancy in saying that I believe that is one of the greatest crimes of the world today, this evil practice.*

There's more, but I won't write it. Birth control is not good.

Now, of course I'm not married yet, and I don't believe I'm going to be rich or anything, and after all, wouldn't it be better if we bought a motorboat? (Big smiley face). WHO WANTS GRANDCHILDREN ANYWAY? A public service message from your snotty, sarcastic son WRITTEN WITH MUCH LOVE AND SUBTLETY." (For the record, Dan and I have never tried to curtail the number of children in our family--I am not quite sure what brought this on; and I dare say that after having six or seven, he may consider mitigating considerations on this stance. Well, maybe after a dozen.)