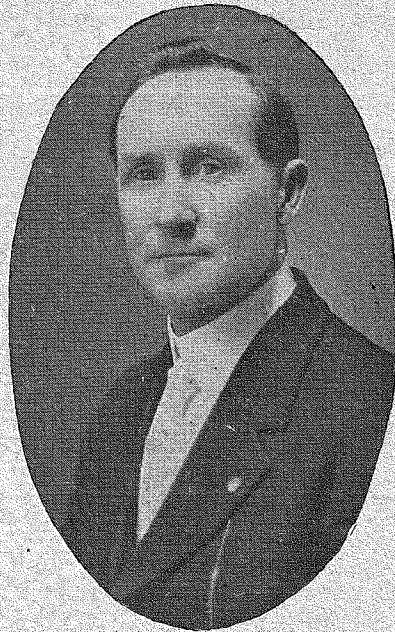


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**True Position of the  
Reorganized Church of  
Jesus Christ of Latter  
Day Saints**

**By Elder Alma Booker**

## THE TRUE POSITION OF THE REORGANIZED

*“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.—John 8:31-32.*

# CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

## THE TRUE POSITION OF THE RE-ORGANIZED CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

That the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints may be better understood I wish to correctly present the position of TRUE LATTER DAY SAINTS.

The wise man said in Ecclesiastes 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. "This would indicate the unfairness of condemning the claims of any people before hearing the whole matter. Solomon also said in Proverbs 18:13, "He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him."

As the Reorganized Church is evil spoken of, are the people not informed that the Church of Christ in Apostolic times was also spoken against? If there should be a doubt in your minds, I cite you to acts 28:22, I Peter 2:12, Acts 24: 5-14, Luke 2:34. But you will no doubt say they did it ignorantly; so did they, so do they now.

### JESUS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Matthew tells us, "That when they had laid hold of Jesus, they took him to Caiaphas, the high priest, and all the council sought false witness against him to put him to death, and found two who accused him, but Jesus answered them not. "And Caiaphas said: "I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ. Jesus saith unto him, "Thou hast said." The high priest said, "He hath spoken blasphemy . . . what think ye?" They answered: "He is worthy of death." Matthew 26:57-66. And when morning came they took counsel again that they might put him to death; having bound him, they took him to Pilate, the governor, where he was falsely accused and condemned to death. Matthew 27.

Jesus had committed no crime, yet he was FALSELY accused, imprisoned, tried by false witnesses, maltreated, and put to death, because the people imagined a vain thing.

Paul was several times falsely accused and imprisoned. In Acts the 23d chapter, we are told that Paul was before the council (after being accused in the two preceding chapters of teaching false doctrine) and after hearing him in his own defense, and finding nothing whereby they could condemn him, "Certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul." He informed them: "If I have been an offender, or committed anything worthy of death, I refuse not to die." But he had broken no law, and after being tried before Felix, Festus and Agrippa, in due time he was released because they could not justly condemn him.

### HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF

To prove what prejudiced people will do, which very often excites the imagination of others, I will cite you to the history of Caldwell and Livingston Counties, Mo., which show the inconsistency of orders being issued by the governor, caused only by the vain imaginations and evil designs of the people of the above counties, which inaugurated what is VAINLY called the Mormon war, when the Saints on going to the polls to vote were denied the privilege of voting their sentiments, as was the rights of all citizens, as it was known that the Saints were, as they are now opposed to slavery, believing that no person should be in bondage to another, and

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while recognizing the freedom and rights of all, thought it no injustice to exercise their rights at the polls as the above history states: "At the August election 1838, a riot occurred at Gallatin between the Mormons (saints) and the Gentiles. The latter would not allow the Mormons (saints) to vote, and it is admitted were the aggressors." Petition based on falsehood were at different times sent to Governor Boggs, which finally resulted in the following order from Major-General Commanding, Samuel D. Lucas, to Brigadier-General A. W. Doniphan, as found on page 137 of the history of Caldwell and Livingston counties which reads: "Brigadier General Doniphan; Sir: "You will take Joseph Smith and the other prisoners into the public square of Far West and shoot them at nine o'clock tomorrow morning."

(Signed) SAMUEL D. LUCAS, Major General, Commanding.

General Doniphan replied as follows: "It is cold-blooded murder. I will not obey your order. My brigade shall march for Liberty tomorrow morning, at eight o'clock; and if you execute those men, I will hold you responsible before an earthly tribunal, so help me God."

(Signed) A. W. DONIPHAN, Brigadier-General.

Ibid, P. 137.

Well did General Doniphan know their cause was not a just one; knowing full well that this order came from men who became prejudiced because of false reports received from the enemy of the Saints, and knowing that those men had committed no such crimes as they were accused of, is why he would not obey the order from Lucas. General Doniphan was never reprimanded for disobeying the order, tho knowing as he did, if the order was legal he would lay himself liable to courtmartial; but he knew the Saints had done nothing worthy of death, and therefore would not stain his hands with innocent blood, but boldly refused to obey the unjust order. The people of today have not forgotten his sterling worth, but have in the present year erected a magnificent monument and bronze statue at the west end of the Courthouse in Richmond, Mo., purchased by the state at a cost of \$10,000 to perpetuate the memory of that noble soldier, lawyer and Statesman, Alexander W. Doniphan.

By reading many unreliable histories written by prejudiced ministers and others who fail to give facts, one might think that Joseph Smith and the adherents to the angel's message were very corrupt; but by consulting authorized history and honorable men of the world who know, say that neither Joseph Smith nor his teachings should be obnoxious to any believer in Jesus Christ and His Gospel.

It is a known fact, that in the early days of the Church, in fact from 1830 to 1846, the Saints were driven from place to place, losing many lives and much property, all because of the Gospel of Christ, in which they were happy to know, and glad to tell others that God was the same, and that he had brought to light the Marvelous Work and a Wonder, spoken of by the Prophet Isaiah.

In 1833, the Saints were driven from Jackson County, Mo., losing their homes and other property; the Prophet and others were imprisoned, falsely accused and maltreated, but finally released because the false charges could not be sustained.

Again under the exterminating orders of Governor Boggs, of Missouri, the above history says further: "What authority General Lucas

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had to make such a 'treaty' and to impose such conditions is not clear . . . The truth was, they had not ceased to be citizens of Missouri, amenable to, and under jurisdiction of its laws. There was no sort of authority for requiring them to leave the State. It was monstrously illegal and unjust to attempt to punish them for offenses for which they had not been tried and convicted. It would be a reasonable conclusion that in making his so-called 'treaty,' General Lucas was guilty of illegal extortion, unwarranted assumption of power, usurpation of authority and a flagrant violation of the natural rights of man." Ibid. P. 143.

On PP. 145-158, of the above history, we are told of the horrible massacre of the Saints at Hauns Mill in Caldwell County, Missouri, on October 30, 1838, when the enraged mob fell upon the camp of the Saints and killed seventeen, wounded many others, and plundered their homes, drove away their horses, hogs and cows, leaving the women and a few old men to the mercy of the winter blasts, and to bury their dead in an old well which is pointed out today as the Sepulcher which contains the remains of seventeen modern martyrs for the cause of Christ.

Joseph Smith, like Paul, Peter, and many of the Prophets and Apostles of old, was many times imprisoned and tried on false pretense, and finally put to death, but I defy the records of any Court that will say he was ever guilty of any crime.

### HONORABLE MENTION OF THE PROPHET

Before launching a defense for the doctrinal teachings of the man, Joseph Smith, who was instrumental in the hands of God in bringing to light the Latter Day work, attention is called to statements of some of the honorable men of their day, not members of the Church, though not prejudiced, who at the time held positions of honor in the political and educational world, and were known and honored for their veracity.

Honorable Josiah Quincy, the honored president of Harvard College, who visited Nauvoo, Ill., in company with Hon. Charles Francis Adams, says: "Polygamy, it must be remembered, formed no part of the alleged revelations upon which the social life of Nauvoo was based; indeed, the recorded precepts of its prophet were entirely opposed to such practice, and it is at least doubtful whether this barbarism was in any way sanctioned by him."

Speaking of the prophet personally, he says: "It is by no means improbable that some future text book for the use of generations yet unborn will contain a question of something like this: What historical American of the nineteenth century has exerted the most powerful influence upon the destinies of his countrymen? And it is by no means impossible that the answer to that may be thus written: "Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet." And the reply, absurd as it doubtless seems to most men now living, may be an obvious commonplace to their descendants. History deals in surprises and paradoxes quite as startling as this. The man who established a religion in this age of free debate, who was and is accepted by hundreds of thousands as a direct emissary from the Most High—such a rare human being is not to be disposed of by pelting his memory with unsavory epithets. Fanatic, imposter, charlatan he may have been, but these hard names furnish no solution to the problem he presents to us. Fanatics and imposters are living and dying every day and their memory is bur-

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ied with them; but the wonderful influence which this founder of a religion exerted and still exerts throws him into relief before us, not as a rogue to be criminated, but as a phenomenon to be explained." Figures of the past, page 376-7.

### JOSEPH SMITH NOT A POLYGAMIST

In the early days of the Church, during the life of Joseph Smith the martyr, polygamy was not the stock-in-trade of his enemies, and not until the dark and cloudy days, many years after he was murdered in cold blood by an enraged mob at Carthage, Ill., was he accused of believing in and practicing the abominable doctrine of polygamy. To determine his guilt or innocence, let us consult honorable men together with his own works for proof.

### COURT DECISIONS

In suit against the dominant church in Utah, in the famous Temple lot case, March 16, 1894, Judge John F. Phillips in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Western District of Missouri, Western Division, rendered the following decision:

"Claims made by the Utah Church that this doctrine (the doctrine of polygamy) is predicated on a revelation made to Joseph Smith in July, 1843. No such revelation was ever made public during the life of Joseph Smith, and under the law of the Church it could not become an article of faith and belief until submitted to, and adopted by the church. This was never done. . . . The Book of Mormon itself inveighed against the sin of polygamy . . . conformably to the Book of Mormon, the book of Doctrine and Covenants expressly declare: "That we believe that one man should have but one wife and one woman but one husband." And this declaration of the Church on this subject reappeared in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, edition of 1846 and 1856. It's first appearance as a dogma (the dogma of polygamy) of the Church, was in the Utah church in 1852."

Again we quote from the decision rendered by Judge L. S. Sherman, in the Court of Common Pleas, Lake County, Ohio, in the Suit against the Utah Mormon Church for the magnificent Temple at Kirtland, Ohio. (See Journal entry, Feb. term, 1880.)

"That the church in Utah, the defendant of which John Taylor (formerly Brigham Young) is president, has materially and largely DEPARTED from the Faith, Laws, Ordinances and usages of said ORIGINAL CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, and has incorporated into its system of faith the doctrine of celestial marriage and a plurality of Wives, and the doctrine of Adam God worship CONTRARY TO THE LAWS AND CONSTITUTION OF SAID ORIGINAL CHURCH." (Emphasis mine, A. B.)

Quoting again from the decision of Judge John F. Phillips, he says: "The Utah Church further DEPARTED from the principles and doctrine of the Original Church by CHANGING in their teaching the first statement in the articles of faith, which was, We believe in God the Eternal Father, and in his Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost, and in lieu thereof taught the doctrine of Adam God worship. Quoted from an open letter to the Clergy, PP. 10-12.

From the above we learn from Court decisions, that the Utah Church is a separate and distinct organization from the Original Church organized

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by Joseph Smith and others, in 1830, and has incorporated into its Faith the Abominable doctrine of Polygamy, Adam-God worship and the more HORRIFYING doctrine of Blood-Atonement, which doctrines were never taught or believed in, previous to the death of Joseph Smith.

### ORIGINAL DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS VERSUS UTAH MORMON DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS.

From the Original Doctrine and Covenants, (1835 edition) which contain the Revelations to the Church, through Joseph Smith, we read: "Thou shalt Love thy Wife (one) with all thy heart, and shall cleave unto Her and None else."—Doc. and Cov. Sec. 42:7.

A quotation from the "Utah Mormon" Doctrine and Covenants, is proof that the teaching of Brigham Young, was not in harmony with the teaching of Joseph Smith during his life. I quote: "If any man espouse a Virgin, and desire to espouse ANOTHER and the FIRST give her consent; and if he espouse the SECOND, and they are Virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he Justified; he cannot commit adultery, for they are given unto him; for he cannot commit adultery with that that belongeth unto him and to NO ONE ELSE." Utah Mormon Doc. and Cov. Sec. 132:61.

No sane person would believe that the two above extracts are the products of the same man. The one coming through Joseph Smith, that a man must cleave to his (one) Wife, while the other coming from the vile lips of Brigham Young, says that ALL those Virgins must cleave to the man, and to none else. We believe the first quotation to be the word and will of God to His Church.

In harmony with the first quotation, I cite you again to a revelation to the Church through Joseph Smith: "And again I say unto you, that whose forbiddeth to marry, is not ordained of God, for marriage is ordained of God unto man; wherefore it is lawful that he should have ONE wife, and they TWAIN shall be ONE flesh, and all this that the earth might answer the end of its creation; and that it might be filled with the measure of man, according to his creation before the world was made." Doc. and Cov. Sec. 49:3.

One could never harmonize the above paragraph, with the following from the Utah Book, which reads: "But if ONE or EITHER of the TEN virgins, after she is espoused shall be with another man; she hath committed adultery, and shall be DESTROYED; for they are given unto HIM to multiply and replenish the earth, according to my commandment and to fulfill the promise which was given by my Father before the foundation of the world." Utah Doc. and Cov. Sec. 132: 65. (Emph. mine)

Quite a contrast between this Abominable HERESY, and the teaching of the man, Joseph Smith who was persecuted without a cause; but Peter the Apostle said in his second Epistle: "And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you." Brigham Young and his colleagues fulfilled Peter's statement to the letter; for what but covetousness could have moved them to gratify their BEASTLY lusts; not being satisfied with the Monogamy system God had given, they sought through their covetousness a plurality of Wives, caused only by their lusts, which caused them to bring in, Peter calls it, "DAMNABLE HERESIES," by which: "And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of which the way of TRUTH shall be EVIL spoken of."—2 Peter, 2:3.

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All during the life of the Prophet, he taught the Monogamy system of Marriage, and in his writings and revelations to the Church along that line he taught and urged his people to attain the highest standard of morality, which their standard of Spirituality depended upon.

Polygamy was, as Peter says, "PRIVILY" introduced by Brigham Young and adopted by those who followed his "PERNICIOUS" ways, in Utah in August 1852. Over eight years after the death of Joseph Smith.

### MONOGAMY SYSTEM TAUGHT IN BIBLE

God did not choose the "Rapid-Transit" way of Polygamy in the beginning, but after creating One man and One woman, said: "For this cause shall a man leave his Father and his Mother, and shall cleave unto his Wife, and they shall be ONE flesh." Genesis, 2:24.

Because some were not true to their companions, the Lord spoke to them through the Prophet Malachi: "Let no man deal treacherously with the Wife of his youth.—"Mal. 2:15.

Jesus said: "He that made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, for this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his Wife; and they TWAIN shall be ONE flesh." Matthew. 19:4-5.

### MONOGAMY SYSTEM TAUGHT IN BOOK OF MORMON

A great many people believe the Book of Mormon teaches polygamy; therefore they think Joseph Smith must have been responsible for that doctrine; but permit me to quote from the book itself which will be sufficient proof: "For behold, thus saith the Lord: this people begin to wax in iniquity; they understand not the scriptures; for they seek to excuse themselves in committing whoredoms, because of the things which were written concerning David and Solomon his son. Behold, David and Solomon truly had many wives and concubines, which thing was abominable before me, saith the Lord. Wherefore, thus saith the Lord: "I have led this people forth out of the land of Jerusalem, by the power of mine arm, that I might raise up unto me a righteous branch from the fruit of the loins of Joseph. (Joseph that was sold into Egypt). Wherefore, I the Lord God will not suffer that this people shall do like unto them of old. Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of the Lord. For there shall not any man among you have save it be ONE Wife; and concubines he shall have NONE; for I the Lord God, delighteth in the chastity of women; and whoredoms are an abomination before me." Book of Mormon. Jacob 2:6.

Brigham Young did not get polygamy from the Book of Mormon, tho many people believe he did; but the quotation above shows plainly that the Lord said it was an ABOMINATION for David and Solomon to have their many wives and concubines, and that the Lord had led a people out from among them that he might raise up a righteous branch.

Utah Mormonism is out of harmony with the teaching of the True Church, and the Books; for it plainly states in their Doctrine and Covenants pages 469 and 470, that God gave all those wives to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and Solomon, and that it was the Law, and that God commanded it, but we read in Genesis, 16:3, "And Sarai (afterward called Sarah) Abram's (afterward called Abraham) wife took Hagar her maid. . . . and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife." Also in the 29th chapter of Genesis,



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that Jacob, worked seven years for Rachel, but at evening, Laban (the father of Rachel and Leah), brought Leah to Jacob, and he did not discover that it was not Rachel until morning, when he learned that Laban had worked the deception, then Jacob agreed to work seven more years for Rachel; so it was not God that gave those men their wives; in the case of Abraham, Sarah gave her maid to him and in the case of Jacob, it was a contract between Jacob and Laban. God had nothing to do with it. Neither did the Lord have anything to do in the case of David; for we are told in Second Samuel, chapter eleven, that David had Uriah killed that he might get his wife, which thing displeased the Lord very much. Also in First Kings, eleventh chapter, we are told, "That King Solomon loved many strange women. . . .and they turned away his heart from the Lord."

By reading the above chapters cited, you will discover that God had nothing to do with giving those men their Polygamous wives, and also that the Book of Mormon is right in declaring their actions were an ABOMINATION before him.

In Book of Mormon times, some were guilty of the same mistake, and sought to excuse themselves because of what David and Solomon did, and the Lord rebuked them for it.

The Prophet Jacob, of prehistoric America times, also spoke the word of the Lord further to the people who had become CORRUPT, and said: "Wo, Wo, unto you that are not pure in heart; that are filthy this day before God. . . .and the Lamonites (or Indians) which are not filthy like unto you, (nevertheless, they are cursed with a sore cursing) shall scourge you even unto destruction, (and they did scourge them even into the annihilation of the people of Nephi, four hundred years after Christ. Book of Mormon Moroni, 10:1, and the Lamonites (or Indians) possessed the land, and were in possession of it upon its discovery in 1492, as history informs us). And the time speedily cometh, that except ye repent they (the Indians) shall possess the land of your inheritance, and the Lord God will lead away the righteous out from among you. Behold the Lamonites, your brethren, whom ye hate, because of their filthiness and cursings which have come upon their skins, are more righteous than you; for they have not forgotten the commandment of the Lord, which was given unto our fathers, that they should have save it were ONE Wife, and concubines they should have NONE, and there should not be whoredoms committed among them." Book of Mormon,, Jacob 2:9.

The above quotations show conclusively that the doctrine of polygamy is not a teaching of the Book of Mormon, and therefore not a teaching of Joseph Smith, as quotations also from the revelations given through him to the Church, which governed its members is shown in a resolution on Marriage, adopted by the Church in 1835, found in Doctrine and Covenants, Sec. 111, Par. 2.

"Marriage should be celebrated with prayer and thanksgiving; and at the solemnization, the persons to be married, standing together, the man on the right, and the woman on the left, shall be addressed by the person officiating, as he shall be directed by the Holy Spirit; and if there be no legal objections he shall say, calling each by their names: "You both mutually agree to be each other's companion, husband and wife, observing the legal rights belonging to this condition, that is, keeping yourselves wholly for each other, and from all others during your lives? And when

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they have answered yes, he shall pronounce them "husband and wife" in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by virtue of the laws of the country and authority vested in him: "May God add his blessings and keep you to fulfill your covenants from henceforth and forever. Amen."

To make our position still clearer, I quote farther from the same section: "We declare that we believe that ONE man should have ONE wife; and ONE woman but ONE husband, except in case of death, when either is at liberty to marry again." Ibid, Par. 4.

The above, together with all the quotations I have given you from the Bible and other Books of the Church, was the doctrine of the Church in 1835, and is the doctrine of the True Church of the Latter Day Saints today.

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Believing there has been enough said to prove to fair minded people, that the True Latter Day Saints have always stood, as they do now, for the highest possible standard of morality, I shall call your attention to the claims of the Reorganized Church, which is in succession from the Church organized April 6, 1830, also its doctrinal teachings.

### LOYAL MEMBERS REJECT USURPERS.

After the death of Joseph Smith, in 1844, the Church was thrown into confusion by the Usurpation of Brigham Young and others, who usurped the authority to lead the Church after the death of the Prophet; and after rejecting the claims of all usurpers, the ministers who remained loyal to the faith of the Church, continued preaching, Baptizing and organizing branches, and in June, 1852, at their first conference, held at Beloit, Wisconsin, a resolution was adopted as follows: "Resolved, that this conference regard the pretensions of Brigham Young, James J. Strang, James Collin Brewster, William Smith and Joseph Wood's joint claims to the leadership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, as an assumption of power, in violation of the law of God, and consequently we disclaim all connection and fellowship with them." Church History, Vol. 3. Page 209.

### LINEAL DESCENT MUST PRESIDE.

Another important resolution was also adopted at the above conference: "Resolved, that the successor of Joseph Smith, Junior, as the Presiding High Priest in the Melchisedec Priesthood, must of necessity be the seed of Joseph Smith, Jr., in fulfillment of the law and promises of God." Ibid, Vol. 3. P. 209.

The following from a Revelation to the Church, December 6, 1832, will prove that the members of the above conference were in harmony with the will of God, and the rules of the Church, prior to the apostacy of Brigham Young, and all other usurpers of the leadership, we read:

"Therefore, your life and the Priesthood hath remained, and must needs remain, through you (Joseph Smith) and your lineage, until the restoration of all things spoken by the mouths of all the Holy Prophets since the world began." Doctrine and Covenants, Sec. 84: 3.

Also in the language of the Prophet himself whether prophetic or otherwise he said: "As long as grass grows and water runs, I or my posterity will plead the cause of injured innocence." Times and Seasons, Vol. 5. P. 395.

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## BLESSINGS ON POSTERITY.

Joseph Smith, eldest son of the Martyr, was blessed and set apart by his father to be his successor in the Presidency of the Church after his death; which is in perfect harmony with the following promise to the Prophet:

"For this anointing have I put upon his (Joseph's) head, that his blessing shall also be put upon the head of his posterity after him." Doc. and Cov. Sec. 107: 18.

## YOUNG JOSEPH SET APART

The late Joseph Smith testified in the Temple lot suit, found in Abstract of evidence, PP. 40, 41.

"About my selection by my father to be his successor in office I remember of being called into his office, or into a room adjoining his office, and receiving the laying on of hands, and a prophetic blessing or setting apart, whatever it may be called. I remember that, and also remembered that just before his departure for Carthage with a number of others, I was called into a room in the Mansion House, and there again received the laying on of hands, and the blessing. I was also present at a meeting in the grove near the Temple, and I remember my father laying his hands on my head, and saying to the people that this was his successor, or would be his successor." (Quoted from Books and Utah Mormonism, in contrast, P. 48.)

## REVELATION TO BRIGGS

The Lord spoke by revelation to Jason W. Briggs in November 1851, and published by himself, in the Messenger, a local paper of which he was editor, Vol. 2: P. 1. "And in mine own due time will I call upon the seed of Joseph Smith, and will bring one forth, and he shall be mighty and strong and he shall preside over the Priesthood of my Church; and then shall the quorums assemble, and the pure in heart shall gather, and Zion shall be reinhabited, as I said unto my servant Joseph Smith; after many days shall all these things be accomplished, saith the Spirit."

We have cited enough proof to show conclusively that Joseph Smith's posterity should succeed him in the prophetic office, also that young Joseph was set apart by the blessing of his father just prior to his death, and that God revealed through prophecy that the posterity of Joseph Smith would be called forth and occupy in his office made vacant by death, and the following is proof that the statements were prophetic, as Joseph Smith, son of the martyred Prophet, nine years after the latter promise was made came to the conference at Amboy Ill., and on April 6th 1860, was accepted by the conference and duly ordained, and installed in the office of President of the Rorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

## EVIDENCE OF HIS CALL.

Quoting from his speech to the members of the conference: "I would say to you brethren, as I hope you may be, and in faith I trust you are, as a people that God has promised his blessings upon, I came not here of myself, but by the influence of the Spirit. For some time past I have received manifestations pointing to the position which I am about to assume.

I wish to say that I have come here not to be dictated by any men or set of men. I have come in obedience to a power not my own, and shall be dictated by the power that sent me. . . . God works by means best known

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to himself, and I feel that for some time past he has been pointing out a work for me to do." Church History Vol. 3 P. 247.

The closing paragraph of his speech is quite fitting which says: "I do not care to say any more at present, but will simply add that if the same Spirit which prompts my coming, prompts also my reception, I am with you." Ibid. P. 250.

### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOSEPH SMITH.

At the death of the late Joseph Smith, December 10, 1914., the Kansas City Journal had the following editorial:

"In the death of the late venerable head of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints the country loses an interesting and useful citizen.

Those who ignorantly confound the Reorganized Church with Mormonism in the objectionable acceptation of that term, will not appreciate the theological distinctions between the two, nor understand that nothing was more hateful to Joseph Smith than the doctrines of Brigham Young, with their Polygamous teachings and all the other features which make Utah Mormonism obnoxious in the eyes of the average American.

He was the Prophet, but first of all he was the Christian gentlemen and good citizen. As such he lived, as such he died, as such he will be remembered by all outside the household of his faith....

Kindly, cheerful, loyal to his own creed, tolerant of those of others, standing for modesty, simplicity, good citizenship, embodying in his private and public life all the virtues which adorn a character worthy of emulation—such is the revelation which Joseph Smith leaves to the world, as the real interpretation of an ecclesiastical message translated into terms of human character.—Kansas City Journal, December, 12, 1914.

The Reorganized Church can justly look with pride upon the stainless character of the late venerable President, and Prophet, Joseph Smith, who with faith and confidence presided over the Church more than fifty-four years, retaining his mental faculties and was enabled to fill his Prophetic office as President of the Church with honor and dignity; until the day of his demise.

Being personally acquainted with the late Joseph Smith, we together with more than Eighty-thousand adherents to the Angel's message can say, long live the memory of that grand old man, and a life well spent.

### PRESIDENT FREDERICK M. SMITH.

Frederick Madison Smith, was designated by revelation through his Father, the Late Joseph Smith, to be his successor at his death, as a revelation to the Church, April 14, 1906, makes clear.

"Inasmuch as misunderstanding has occurred in regard to the meaning of a revelation hitherto given through my servant Joseph Smith in regard to who should be called to preside in case my servant should be taken away or fall by transgression; it is now declared that in case of removal of my servant now presiding over the Church by death or transgression, my servant Frederick M. Smith, if he remain faithful and steadfast, should be chosen in accordance with the revelations which have been hitherto given to the Church concerning the Priesthood. Should my servant Frederick M. Smith prove unstable and unfaithful, another may be chosen according to the law already given." Doc. and Cov. Sec. 127: 8.

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## FREDERICK M. SMITH, CHOSEN.

At the General Conference which convened at Lamoni Iowa, April 6th, 1915, after the death of his Father, Frederick Madison Smith was unanimously chosen President of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints; and in May of that same year was duly ordained, President of the High Priesthood, and during the three years of occupancy as President of the Church, thousands both in and out of the Church look upon him as a wise and noble leader of his people, and of sterling worth as a citizen in the community where he resides and of our great Nation.

## TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT FREDERICK M. SMITH.

At the late General Conference of the Reorganized Church, which convened at Independence Mo., April 6, 1918, Congressman W. P. Borland, of Missouri, being present (tho' not a member of our Church) spoke, and in glowing terms paid tribute to President Frederick M. Smith, as follows:

"Mr. President, my friends, ladies and gentlemen:

"I esteem it a great honor to be called upon to occupy even a few minutes of the time of this important deliberation as your guest today. My own heart is with our soldier boys in the field; my work at home, and in Washington, has but one aim today and that is the perpetuation of our American institutions and the victory to our boys who have gone so gallantly to offer their lives upon the alter of our country.

"I know that in whatever assemblage we find ourselves, particularly in a religious assembly the subject of 'Our Boys' is very close to our hearts; it is close to my heart. I am very glad to see this numerous assemblage here in the capital City of our County, in the Capital City of our congressional district. I have had the pleasure on frequent occasions of working with your distinguished President, Reverend Frederick M. Smith. I regard it, my friends, as a privilege to say to you that no man stands higher in my estimation for clear cut, transparent, manly character, a man of influence in the community, and in the Nation, than Frederick M. Smith, of Jackson County, Missouri.

"Whatever I have had the honor to receive in the way of communications from him, has had my unbounded, complete, and perfect confidence in its reliability and in the fact that it represented the highest type of citizenship and moral attainment in the community. I am glad to find that he represents an element which is aggressive for the good of man-kind; he is always on the moral side, on the betterment side of every proposition. He has always felt free to consult with me upon any question of public importance; I have found that his sympathies are broad; they are Nation wide and World wide; they extend to our colonial and insular possessions; they have always touched with a healing hand in every enterprise in which they have engaged. I want to renew to him and to you my feelings of the deepest sympathy and cooperation, and tender to you upon every occasion my own services along lines which I know, in advance, will be for the betterment of humanity.

"I want to say to you that I shall in the future, as in the past, take it as a matter of honor and privilege to work in the same harness, side by side, with such distinguished leaders as preside over you today, for the great betterment not only of my own district, for we are not narrow in our sympathies, but for the better interest of the United States of America, and for the colonial possessions which have come under our charge and for the

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world which looks to us, today, for the leadership of humanity, I thank you."

### REORGANIZATION NOT A BRANCH.

A great many HONEST people, tho ignorant, and not a few UNSCRUPULOUS ones, are ready to inform the inquirer, that the Reorganized Church and the Utah Church, are the same in teaching and practice, and that the Reorganized Church is a branch from the Utah Church; neither position is correct.

The Reorganization is not a BRANCH from any thing; nor is it the same in doctrine or practice with the Utah Church, but is a continuation of the Original Church, organized April 6, 1830, by Joseph Smith and others, in harmony with the command of God, and its leaders have been in direct line of succession being duly called of God, and ordained according to the law of the Church, and have proven themselves worthy of commendation by all who have had personal knowledge of them.

We look with a great deal of allowance upon those who are ignorant of the Spiritual and moral teachings of the TRUE Latter Day Saints, that misrepresent us, but those with such knowledge, who unscrupulously misrepresent us, we can look with pity, and pray our Heavenly Father to have mercy upon them.

### COURT DECISION ON REORGANIZED CHURCH.

The following is an extract from the decision rendered by Judge L. S. Sherman, in the Court of COMMON PLEAS, Lake County, Ohio.

"That the said Plaintiff, the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, is a Religious Society, founded and organized upon the same doctrine and tenets, and having the same church organization, as the Original Church of Jesus of Latter Day Saints, organized in 1830. . . and the court do further find that the Plaintiff, the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter Day Saints, is the True and Lawful continuation of, and successor to the said original Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints." organized in 1830 and is entitled in law to all its rights and property. (See Journal entry, February term, 1880).

### SENATOR BURROWS ON REORGANIZED CHURCH.

United States Senator Julius C. Burrows, was chairman of the committee on privileges and elections during the long drawn out Case against the seating of the elected, Utah Mormon Senator, Reed Smoot, from the State of Utah; at the close of that well-remembered Case, Mr. Burrows, who understood the position of both Churches, and not being prejudiced, but fair-minded, thought it justice to set the Reorganized Church right before that august body, and during his speech made mention of both churches as follows:

"In order to induce his followers more readily to accept this infamous doctrine, (the doctrine of polygamy) Brigham Young himself invoked the name of Joseph Smith, the Martyr, whom many sincerely believe to be a true Prophet, and ascribed to him the reception of a revelation from the Almighty in 1843, commanding the Saints to take unto themselves a multiplicity of wives, limited in number only by the measure of their desires. . . . Such the mythical story palmed off on a deluded people.

"The death of Joseph Smith in 1844, however, carried dismay and

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demoralization throughout the entire membership of the Mormon (Saints) Church, scattering its adherents in divers directions, and for the time being seemed to presage the complete overthrow of the organization. Recovering however, from the shock, the scattered bands soon reappeared in various parts of the country and promulgated their doctrine with increased zeal, and set to work to reassemble and reorganize their scattered forces, resulting finally in the formation of what is now known and recognized as the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, with headquarters at Lamoni, Iowa, and is presided over by Joseph Smith, a son of the Prophet. The Courts have repeatedly declared this organization to be the legitimate successor of the original Mormon (Saints) Church, and its adherents numbering some 50,000 (now over 90,000) peaceable, patriotic, and law-abiding citizens scattered throughout the United States (also England, Wales, Scotland, Denmark, Sweden, Australia, Palestine and the Islands of the South Seas) in small church societies, conforming to the laws of their country wherever they may be, and adhering to the faith of the founder of their creed, repudiating and denouncing the doctrine of polygamy and its attendant crimes; without temple, endowment house, or secret order; worship in the open like other church organizations, unquestioned, and unmolested. "Cong. Rec. Dec. 13, 1906."

### PERSECUTION A SYMBOL.

We have cited enough proof to show that those who best know our position as a Church, have voluntarily told the prejudiced and nonprejudiced public, that our Church has always, and does now, stand for the highest possible degree of perfection to be attained by Mortal man; and while prejudice causes us to be unjustly criticised, we remember the Master of men said to His disciples, (and is just as applicable to his disciples today) "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you." John 15: 18.

Also: "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." Verse 19.

Joseph Smith claimed that God called him out from the world, and because of his claim, the world hated him, and continues to hate the people that believe in his call, and that God has set up His Church in these last days, which in fact, is different in Origin, Organization, Faith and Doctrine, from all other Churches who claim that God has ceased to reveal His will to his people.

We know and bear testimony to the world that God has set up HIS Church in these last days, therefore the world hates us; but we find consolation in the language of the Master again: "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you. . . . But all these things will they do unto you for my name sake, because they know not him that sent me." John 15: 20.

We are quite willing to suffer persecution for Christ's sake, for Jesus said in his sermon on the mount: "Blessed are ye when men revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my name sake.

"Rejoice and be exceeding glad; for great is your reward in Heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." Matthew, 5: 11, 12.

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The Saints in all ages have been made to suffer by reason of ignorance on the part of those who do not understand God, nor the people who believe in his unchangeability.

Paul said of the Saints in his day: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." 2 Corinthians, 4: 8, 9.

From the above quotations, together with the actions of the people against the Saints of all ages, we learn that persecution is characteristic of those in the past, who fought against God's Divine plan; but His work will stand against all adversaries, and will eventually triumph over all opposition.

We shall now turn our attention to other matters pertaining to the Lord's work.

### FOR WHAT WAS JOSEPH SMITH PERSECUTED?

The testimony for which Joseph Smith suffered martyrdom, is told by himself in 'Times and Seasons' Vol. 3. He relates reading the first Epistle of James, where the Lord promised wisdom to all, and that he would not upbraid them for coming to him. Believing he lacked wisdom to know where to cast his lot in the religious world, he betook himself to the quietude of the wood that he might be divinely guided, and in his own language he states: "I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun, which descended gradually until it fell upon me. It no sooner appeared than I found myself delivered from the enemy that held me bound. When the light rested upon me I saw two personages (whose brightness and glory defy all description) standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name, and said, (pointing to the other "This is my beloved Son, hear Him."

He received much instruction from the Lord in that Spring of 1820, being the first man to claim that God spakè audibly to them, since he spoke to John on the isle of Patmos, 96, A. D.

Again in 1823, while engaged in prayer he says: "While I was in the act of calling upon God, I discovered a light appearing in the room, which continued to increase until the room was lighter than at noon-day when immediately a personage appeared at my bedside standing in the air, for his feet did not touch the floor. . . He called me by name, and said unto me that he was a messenger sent from the presence of God to me, and that his name was Nephi, and that God had a work for me to do, and that my name should be had for good and evil among all nations, kindreds and tongues. He said there was a book deposited written upon gold plates, giving an account of the former inhabitants of this continent, and the source from whence they came. "The angel also informed him that the book contained the Fullness of the Gospel as the Saviour delivered it to the ancient people of this continent, and with the plates were deposited the Urim and Thummim which would be used in translating the plates." Church History Vol. 1: PP. 8-13.

In 1827, he is permitted by the angel to take the plates from their depository in the hill Cumorah, and at once began the translation of the Book of Mormon by the gift and power of God. In August, 1829, the manuscript was put into the hands of the printer, John H. Gilbert of Palmyra N. Y., and in March, 1830, the printing was completed, and the Book of Mormon was presented to the world; and for his claim that he was a



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Prophet, called of God, and was instrumental in bringing the work to light, he was persecuted and put to death.

### THE BOOK OF MORMON, WHAT IS IT?

The Book of Mormon purports to be a history of the several nations which inhabited the American continent in prehistoric times. The first of these coming to this land after the confounding of tongues at the tower of Babel, about 2247, B. C., according to Bible chronology. (See margin)

“Therefore is the name of it called Babel, because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth; and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon all the face of the earth.” Genesis 11:9.

The above language informs us, that the Lord scattered the people upon ALL the face of the earth; if so, it is not unreasonable to believe that a colony came to this land, as it is a part of the earth.

Quoting from the Book of Mormon, in Ether’s account of their genealogy, said: “Which Jared came forth with his brother and their families, with some others and their families, from the great tower, at the time the Lord confounded the language of the people, and swear in his wrath that they should be scattered upon the face of all the earth; and according to the word of the Lord the people were scattered.” Book of Mormon, Small edition, page 501.

Being commanded of the Lord to go from the tower of Babel, the brother of Jared prayed to the Lord to know where they might go, and were told of the Lord that He would direct them to a land choice above all other lands. They were also commanded to build barges; eight in number; and by command, they gathered together many animals and much food for man and beast, after which, Ether says: “And it came to pass that when they had prepared all manner of food, that thereby they might subsist upon the water, and also food for their flocks and herds, and whatsoever beast or animal or fowl that they should carry with them. And it came to pass that when they had done all these things, they got aboard of their vessels or barges, and set forth into the sea, commending themselves unto the Lord their God. . . . And thus they were driven forth three hundred and forty and four days upon the water; and they did land upon the shore of the promised land.” Book of Mormon, Page 505-510.

As the most ancient remains of the people who once dwelt on this continent are found in Central America, it is supposed that this colony landed on the west coast of central America, possibly as far south as Costa Rica.

The most important colony, called the Nephites, according to their record, left Jerusalem six hundred years before Christ, in the reign of Zedekiah, just prior to the Babylonian captivity. See Jeremiah 39: 1-9.

The Prophet Nephi, giving an account of their departure from Jerusalem says: “For it came to pass, in the commencement of the first year of the reign of Zedekiah, King of Judah, (my father Lehi having dwelt at Jerusalem in all his days;) and in that same year there came many prophets prophesying unto the people that they must repent, or the great city Jerusalem must be destroyed. Wherefore it came to pass that my father Lehi, as he went forth, prayed unto the Lord, yea, even with all his heart, in behalf of his people.”

“Therefore, I would that ye should know, that after the Lord had shown so many marvelous things unto my father Lehi, yea, concerning the destruction of Jerusalem, behold he went forth among the people, and be-

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gan to prophesy and to declare unto them concerning the things which he had both seen and heard.

“And it came to pass that the Lord commanded my father, yea even in a dream, that he should take his family and depart into the wilderness. And it came to pass that he was obedient unto the word of the Lord, wherefore he did as the Lord commanded him.” Book of Mormon, page 3.

That many prophets, did speak the word of the Lord to the people in the reign of Zedekiah, I cite you to Jeremiah, 35: 15. “I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to your fathers, but you have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.”

Jeremiah also tells us that the King of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah, and all the nobles of Judah, put out the eyes of Zedekian, and carried him with all the remnant of the people of the city captives into Babylon.” Jeremiah, 39: 7-9.

After remaining in the wilderness for some time, being Commanded of the Lord, Nephi builds a ship according to the pattern shown him; when all things are completed, by the command of God, the party set sail for their promised land. Being directed and protected of the Lord, the prophet Nephi informs us, after suffering many hardships, because of the disobedience of his brethren they finally land in the new world.” Book of Mormon, Nephi, 5: 36-45.

This colony landed on the west coast of South America, locating in central Peru; and some time after their location, they were divided into two colonies, caused by the rebellion of Laman and Lemuel against their brother Nephi, and also against God; and because of their wickedness, they were cursed with a dark skin, and were known thereafter as the Lamanites, (better known to us as Indians) according to the name of their leader, Laman. Those remaining loyal to God, and to Nephi the Prophet, were called Nephites.

The Nephites were very industrious, and highly cultured in Art and Science. They built large and spacious buildings, Towns and Cities, as Archaeological Research reveals to us. (See Baldwin's Ancient America, Josiah Priest's American Antiquities; also M. Charney's Ancient Cities of the New World, and many others.)

One quotation from the Renowned Archaeologist, M. Charney, the French traveler and author, in the “Introduction” to his work, tells us of the Cities, palaces, temples, and buildings throughout Yucatan, Honduras, Gautemala, Chiapas and Mexico. He says: “These monuments are of surpassing grandeur. Their annals and the tale their hieroglyphics strive to tell are still unsolved. . . Yet how few Americans of our day have any adequate conception of the stately edifices of monumental Mitla, or of Palenque, with its magnificent palace, its terraces and temples; its pyramids and sculptured ornaments. The story of Spanish rule in America is familiar to all, but comparatively few have any knowledge of those splendid relics that still crown the entire nucleus of new Spain, and despite the havoc of time, speak to us so eloquently of a noble culture reaching back far beyond the conquest.”—Ancient Cities, PP. 10-11.

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## A BOOK TO COME FORTH.

That a book should come forth, which would be a record of the descendants of Israel, I cite you to a few passages of scripture as proof.

Attention is called first, to a branch of Israel that would go over the sea.—“For the fields of Heshbon languish, and the vine of Sibmah; the Lords of the heathen have broken down the principal plants thereof, they are come even unto Jazer, they wandered through the wilderness; her branches are stretched out, they are gone over the sea.” Isaiah 16:8.

## TO SPEAK OUT OF THE GROUND.

That Israel should be brought down and speak out of the ground, I call your attention to Isaiah. “And thou shalt be brought down, and shalt speak out of the ground, and thy speech shall be low out of the dust, and thy voice shall be as of one that hath a familiar spirit, out of the ground, and thy speech shall whisper out of the dust.” Isaiah 29:4.

When should they whisper out of the dust? We are told it would be at a time when there were no prophets. “Stay yourselves and wonder; cry ye out, and cry; they are drunken but not with wine; they stagger, but not with strong drink.

For the Lord hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes; the Prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered.” Verse 9-10.

During this period of darkness, when there were no prophets, the Lord said: “And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this I pray thee; and he saith, I cannot for it is sealed.” Verse 11.

That the characters which Joseph Smith had copied from the plates were taken by Martin Harris to Professor Anthon of New York City, who said they were true characters, but he was unable to decipher them is a known fact. An acknowledgment of the receipt of the Characters taken by Martin Harris to Professor Anthon, is found in a letter written by the Professor to E. D. Howe, and recorded in Smucher’s History of the Mormons, PP. 37-39. Also the testimony of Mr. Harris himself, found in Church History, Vol. 1, page 19.

The learned man not being able to “read it,” Isaiah continues: “And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, read this, I pray thee; and he saith, “I am not learned.” Verse 12.

The learned nor unlearned not being able to read (or decipher) the Characters which would “whisper from the dust” the history of a sleeping Nation the Lord said: “Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvelous work among this people, even a marvelous work and a wonder; for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid.” Verse 14.

## THE MARVELOUS WORK.

The marvelous work was brought forth in the restoration of the Gospel in 1830, in its effulgence and power, and when the Book of Mormon was given to the world, not as the highest literary production, but as a history of the prehistoric people who once inhabited this continent, and God’s dealing with them, and at this time the “Meek increased their joy in the Lord,” when revelation from God came which caused the “poor” hunted and oppressed people to “rejoice in the Holy one of Israel.” Ibid, verse 19.

The Psalmist says: “Truth shall spring out of the earth, and righteousness shall look down from Heaven.” Psalms 85: 11.

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Just after TRUTH (the Book of Mormon) should spring out of the earth, and God should look down in acknowledgment of His work, the Psalmist says: "Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good; and our land (Palestine) shall yield her increase. Ibid Verse 12.

Isaiah speaking of this same matter after the Marvelous work should come forth: "Is it not yet a very little while and Lebanon (Palestine) shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be esteemed as a forest." Isaiah 29: 17.

That you may understand Palestine was not a fertile land for centuries, your attention is called to the following: "Eighteen centuries of war, ruin and neglect have passed over it. Its valleys have been cropped for ages without the least attempt at fertilization. . . Its trees have been cut down and never replaced. Its fields have been desolate. . . A land of ruins without man or beast. Everywhere, on plain or mountain, in rocky desert, or on beetling cliff, the spoiler's hand has rested." McClintock and Strong's Ency., Art, Palestine.—Parsons Text Book, P. 142.

That Palestine received her latter rains shortly after the Book of Mormon came forth, we read: "It is a fact that the rain and dew are restored; recently in 1853, the former and latter rain was restored to the astonishment of the natives." Parsons Text Book, P. 143.

The products of the soil range from peas, beans, wheat and barley, to grapes, figs, olives and apricots. Lemons, oranges, dates and mellons are abundant. Average annual rain fall at Jerusalem is sixty inches. Herzog's Ency. Art, Palestine.

### THE BOOK OF MORMON ANOTHER WITNESS

Many people have said: "Of what worth is the Book of Mormon to us? I will let the Prophet Ezekiel, answer. "Moreover, thou son of man, take thee one stick, and write upon it for Judah, and for the children of Israel his companions. Then take another stick, and write upon it, for Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Israel his companions; and join them one to another into one stick, and they shall become one in thine hand. And when the children of thy people shall speak unto thee, saying: "Wilt thou not shew us what thou meanest by these? say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God: "Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in thine hand." Ezekel 37: 16-19.

That the Bible is the stick of Judah, will not be questioned; where then is the stick of Joseph?

When blessing his son Joseph, Jacob said: "The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors, unto the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills; they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren." Genesis 49: 26.

Jacob's blessing now conferred upon Joseph, was greater than the blessing hitherto given to his progenitors; the promise of his inheritance did not reach only the limits of Canaan, but was extended to the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills; and from statements of the prophets found in the following quotations are very descriptive of this western continent, being the extension of the blessing of inheritance of Joseph's posterity.

Moses in blessing the tribes, says of Joseph: "Blessed of the Lord be

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his land, for the precious things of heaven. . . . And for the precious fruit . . . . And for the chief things of the ancient mountains, and for the precious things of the lasting hills." Deut. 33: 13-16.

That our America is blessed above all nations, attention is called to The North American, for Oct. 27, 1918, in giving the statistics, show that while the United States has only 7 per cent of the world's area and 6 per cent of her population, she possesses 75 per cent of the corn, 66 per cent of the cotton, 66 per cent of the petroleum, 50 per cent of the copper, 40 per cent of the iron, 40 per cent of the coal, 40 per cent of the Railways, 35 per cent of the banking powers, 30 per cent of the wealth and 25 per cent of the wheat. See also Jeremiah, 49: 30-31. Also "The land shadowing with wings." Isaiah 18: 1-3.

Lehi, who left Jerusalem six hundred years before Christ, claims he was a decendent of Joseph, and of the tribe of Manasseh, the son of Joseph to whom, the extended blessing was given.

That there were a people of Israel somewhere not of the fold at Jerusalem, Jesus said: "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold and one shepherd." John 10: 16.

The Book of Mormon being a history of that people, is therefore the stick of Joseph, and is another witness to Jew and Gentile that Jesus is the Christ, and that the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe and obey it.

### THE APOSTACY.

That an apostacy from the church of Christ would come, is quite evident from the following: Paul writing of the second coming of Christ says, "Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come (the coming of Christ) except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed the son of perdition. 2 Thes. 2: 3. Daniel's vision of the kingdom of Media and Persia, the Grecians and the Babylonians, was so astounding, that when he understood the meaning of the King of fierce countenance, he fainted when the heavenly messenger informed him that this latter king should stand up; "and his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power, and shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the Holy people." Daniel 8: 19-24.

Speaking of this same power, John the Revelator says: "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues and nations." Rev. 13: 7,8.

That the woman (or church, Rev. 19:7,8; 2 Cor. 11:2) did flee before the power of the dragon, we read, "and the woman fled into the wilderness where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and three score days." (Or prophetic years, Ezek. 4:6; Num. 14:34) Rev. 12:3,6.

### THE RESTORATION.

That this great power, and the accuser of the brethren would be overcome, and salvation restored by the power of Christ, we read: "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ; for the accuser of our brethren, is cast down which accused them before our God day and night." Rev. 12: 10-12.

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### TO BE RESTORED BY AN ANGEL.

In every dispensation God sent angels to his Prophets through whom he would establish his work; John speaking of the establishing of His Gospel in the last days says: "And I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven having the everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth and to every nation, and kindred and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, fear God, and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgment is come." Rev. 14:6.

### MUST COME TO YOUNG MAN.

Zechariah speaking of the rehabilitation of Jerusalem, and the redemption of Zion, after the desolation of Jerusalem says, "And behold the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, and said unto him, Run speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls." Zech. 2:3-4.

Joseph Smith answers this description, as he was a young man scarcely sixteen when he received his first vision, and was only twenty-two when he received the plates.

The above reveals two things very plainly, that an angel should bring back to earth the everlasting Gospel, and he should appear to a young man.

Joseph Smith being the only man to claim a fulfillment of the above predictions, who dare doubt his integrity and veracity!

### PRIESTHOOD CONFERRED BY ANGEL.

As our work does not claim to be a Reformation, but a Restoration of the primitive Gospel, we will let the Prophet relate his own story as to the restoring of the Priesthood, and the authority to act in the name of Christ.

While Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were engaged in prayer he says: "While we were thus employed, praying and calling upon the Lord, a Messenger from Heaven descended in a cloud of light, and having laid His hands upon us, he ordained us, saying unto us, Upon you, my fellow servants, in the name of Messiah, I confer the Priesthood of Aaron." Church History, Vol. 1. P. 34.

Again by the instruction of the heavenly Messenger the Melchisedec Priesthood was conferred upon them, and on the 6th day of April 1830, six who had been baptized met, and according to instructions already given, Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery ordained each other to the office of Elder in the Melchisedec Priesthood, then proceeded to organize the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

### THE ORGANIZATION.

As God revealed to the Prophet, the Church was in due time organized according to the pattern in the New Testament, and the Gifts and Calling of God to men.

### APOSTLES.

"And God hath set some in the Church, first Apostles," 1 Cor. 12: 28.

"And he (Christ) ordained TWELVE, that they should be with him, and that he should send them forth to preach." Mark 3: 14.

### PROPHETS.

"Secondarily PROPHETS," 1 Cor. 12: 28. "Now there were in the Church which was at Antioch, certain PROPHETS and TEACHERS," Acts 13: 1.

### SEVENTY.

"After these things the Lord appointed other SEVENTY also, and sent

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them two and two before his face into every city and place whither he himself would come. And the Seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through Thy name." Luke 10: 1-17.

### HIGH PRIESTS.

"For every High Priest taken from among men, is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins." Heb. 5: 1. "So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an High Priest but he that said unto him, thou art my son, today have I begotten thee." Verse 5.

### BISHOPS

"Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Phillippi with the Bishops and Deacons." Phil. 1:1.

### EVANGELIST

"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists." Eph. 4:11. "And we entered into the house of Philip the Evangelist, which was one of the seven, and abode with him." Acts 21:8.

### ELDERS

"For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldst set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain ELDERS in every city as I had appointed thee." Titus 1:5.

### PRIESTS

"There was in the days of Herod, the King of Judea, a certain PRIEST named Zacharias, of the course of Abia. Luke 1:5.

### TEACHERS

Pastors and TEACHERS, Eph. 4:11. And God set in the Church, first APOSTLES, secondarily PROPHETS, thirdly TEACHERS." 1 Cor. 12:28.

### DEACONS

"Likewise must the DEACONS be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre." 1 Tim. 3:8.

### MUST BE CALLED OF GOD.

The above officers of the Church should occupy only as they are called of God by REVELATION through the proper ones exercising the Spiritual Gifts. An example of such call can be found in the following quotations: "And they prayed and said, "Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, show whether of these two thou hast chosen." Acts 1:24. "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." Acts 13:2. Speaking of the Priesthood Paul said: "And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God as was Aaron." Heb. 5:4.

### SPIRITUAL GIFTS

The SPIRITUAL GIFTS the Saints enjoyed in apostolic times (and should be now were, "For to one is given by the Spirit of the word of WISDOM; to another the word of KNOWLEDGE by the same Spirit; to another FAITH by the same spirit; to another the GIFTS OF HEALING by the same Spirit; to another the working of MIRACLES; to another PROPHECY; to another DISCERNING OF SPIRITS; to another divers kinds of TONGUES; to another the INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES." I COR.

12: 8-10.

That the Saints should enjoy these gifts, Paul declared, "Now concerning spiritual gifts brethren, I would not have you ignorant." The Saints are enjoying these gifts today, and are glad to know that God is true to his promise.

#### **PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL**

**FAITH:** "Without Faith it is impossible to please him." Heb. 11:6. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17.

**REPENTANCE:** "I tell you nay; but except ye Repent ye shall likewise perish." Luke 13:5. "But now commandeth all men everywhere to Repent." Acts, 17:30.

**BAPTISM** a saving ordinance; "Except a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God." John 3:5. Acts 2:38.

**BAPTISM** commanded: "Baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Mat. 28:19.

**LAYING ON OF HANDS:** For the Gift of the HOLY GHOST. "And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands and blessed them." Luke 24:50. "And when Paul Had Laid His Hands on them, the HOLY GHOST came on them, and they spake with tongues and prophesied." Acts 19:6.

**LAYING ON HANDS** for blessing children: "And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." Mark 10:16.

**LAYING ON HANDS** for healing the sick: "They shall LAY HANDS ON THE SICK AND THEY SHALL RECOVER." Mark 16:18, Christ laid on hands, Mark 6:5. Paul laid on hands. Acts 28:8.

**LAYING ON HANDS** for ordaining to the Ministry. Acts 13:1-3.

**RESURRECTION OF ALL THE DEAD:** "All that are in their graves shall come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5: 28-29. Rev. 20:12-14.

**ETERNAL JUDGMENT:** "But know thou, for all these things, God will bring thee into judgment." Eccl. 11:9. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. Heb. 9:27.

#### **THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL**

One may ask: What is the everlasting Gospel? Paul makes this very clear. "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; . . . for therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith." Romans 1:16-17.

It must be remembered the establishing of the Gospel, is a prerogative belonging to God and His righteousness is revealed through this medium, and we should not deviate from one principle He has or will reveal and still claim acceptance with Him.

The everlasting Gospel is set forth in this article, and is God's divine economy by which all men may be saved through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ.





