

Thoughts on General Conference October 2020 +10

1. Keys of the Kingdom:

This concept or realization didn't so much come at the conference but after, while reading people's comments on YouTube, as well as emails sent to me. The lack of understanding about the keys is far worse than I originally thought over a year ago. I came to the conclusion, after looking up the Julie Rowe stuff, that a small group of members were being deceived because they didn't understand keys/revelation, but now I think around 80% of the church don't know anything about the keys. And this isn't me "jumping to conclusions", I think 20% is generous as I to this day have yet to meet and talk with a member who had a solid grasp of that doctrine. They think that some "keyless" kid standing up to give a talk at general conference gives it some more validity purely because it was spoken at conference. Joseph Smith allowed preachers from other faiths to stand up and preach anti over his pulpit- does this mean that Joseph validated everything that they said? God forbid. Members don't understand the keys and they don't understand the relationship that we are supposed to have and should have with the keys, and this failure on the part of the members is what gives rise to the outside person looking in thinking members act "cultish". Is there any more validity to a sixteen-year-old young man giving a talk at general conference than that of me putting out doctrine online? No, not one iota of difference. That sixteen-year-old is sharing the doctrine, his testimony etc. to the best of his abilities and without keys. He has no right to revelation to know what any member of the church needs, only what the Lord wanted him to say. There is not one iota of a difference between that and myself. And this applies to everyone who stood up at conference, or at any conference, who didn't hold keys. The reason why this confusion arises in the members today is because conference historically the only people to talk were those with keys. Ergo, people put special emphasis on conference. The problem came when they started phasing out speakers who had keys with speakers who had no keys (the first woman to say a prayer at general conference only occurred in the last ten years). It's not that the messages are bad, it's not that the messages are wrong, the problem comes when people put special emphasis on them on the one hand and suppress other members on the other hand. Your bishop or stake president, for example, what they teach you at stake conference holds far more condemnation and potential for you than that of the Relief Society President of the whole church giving a talk at conference. I have received countless emails from individuals telling me "you don't represent the Church!" Guess what? They are wrong. I do represent the church:

Mosiah 18:8-10

8 And it came to pass that he said unto them: Behold, here are the waters of Mormon (for thus were they called) and now, as ye are desirous to come into the fold of God, and to be called his people, and are willing to bear one another's burdens, that they may be light;

9 Yea, and are willing to mourn with those that mourn; yea, and comfort those that stand in need of comfort, and to stand as witnesses of God at all times and in all things, and in all places that ye may be in, even until death, that ye may be redeemed of God, and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, that ye may have eternal life—

10 Now I say unto you, if this be the desire of your hearts, what have you against being baptized in the name of the Lord, as a witness before him that ye have entered into a covenant with him, that ye will serve him and keep his commandments, that he may pour out his Spirit more abundantly upon you?

We all become official representatives (witnesses) of Christ and his Church when we are baptized and confirmed members of His Church. It is one of the things that we promise we will be and do when we are baptized. If I hear or witness members trying to suppress or diminish members' voices on the one hand and on the other hand turn around and espouse "every member a missionary" one more time, I may just give up the ghost! Which is it? "You don't hold a specific calling and therefore you hold no right to share your knowledge of the gospel or seek to represent it buuuuttt... open your mouth and teach all of your friends and family and represent the Church and share your understanding of the gospel."

People's confusion and blatant ignorance is entirely that of not understanding the keys. I don't have the right to stand up or post a video online and declare "thou shalt know and thou shalt do" for anyone in the world. That doesn't, however, mean that I (or any other member) can't share what they know to be true and why they know it to be true. Now, like Brother Hyrum Andrus explained in one of his videos and I will echo as well, if somebody with the keys came to me and told me something that I knew was wrong, I'd still do it. But that doesn't mean I wouldn't try to correct the individual as some members espouse that you are not allowed to do. Looking from the outside, this is one of the many things, that once again, gives non-members a "cult like feel" that isn't accurate, and that is that "only the leaders are allowed to speak, everyone else needs to shut up and stay in line". Members are not only allowed to, they are required and commanded to, share what they know to be true and why.

Does this mean that everything members say is true? No. The number of times on my mission that I screwed something up could fill volumes. That's not an excuse to shut people up, it's a reason to get better. So members should stop telling other members to shut up- we can correct other members and we can tell other members that they are potentially on dangerous or sandy foundations. People know that I have strong feelings against priestcraft and members teaching verifiably false information. But I have not and will not ever tell them to shut down their YouTube channels, burn all their books etc. and go quietly into the night.

The second thing that has cropped up more and more over the last 20-40 years is the "the leaders of the church are always unflappable or infallible!" fallacy. Joseph Smith taught that he was just a man and made mistakes just like every other man. He did not say "when I make a mistake you better not bring it up, you better not point it out or talk about it or else I will excommunicate you!" He said, "When I make a mistake, please forgive me. And I promise that when you make mistakes I will forgive you." This is a sign of somebody not practicing priestcraft, and members and leaders today should take note, because Joseph Smith was and will remain the second greatest man to ever live, and so if this was his example, members and leaders are in fact "less perfect" than Joseph and thus should remain even more humble.

This is yet another thing that non-members from the outside looking in get a very "cult like feel" from members of the Church and it is incorrect, that leaders of the Church are faultless and cannot be held to account for mistakes or errors because members who bring it up are suppressed, beaten down and excommunicated. This is not the case (or at least shouldn't be). The Church leaders met many times, for example, with that lady who wanted women to have the priesthood. She was wrong and was becoming aggressively anti-Church, yet the leaders wanted to hear her out and after hearing her out they didn't even stop her from believing or teaching **most** of what she was doing, despite the fact it was verifiably wrong, they just wanted her to stop teaching members to disregard the keys and their counsel (ie. teaching people to basically leave the Church). As soon as a leader or any member of the Church stands up and says "you can't point out when any one of your leaders has done something verifiably wrong"-

that is priestcraft. Period. Priestcraft is when you set yourself up or set a man up as a light to get gain or praise, ie. this individual cannot fault and if you claim they have you are in trouble. If the leaders of the Church, ie. the twelve apostles and the presidency, actually believed this, why would they, every conference, ask if anyone is opposed? If there was never an acceptable time to be opposed, they would never ask. The leaders of the Church are men of God, they want to be held accountable, because men of God, when held to account, only have their righteousness further proved, while men practicing priestcraft or unrighteous dominion risk being exposed.

Joseph Smith taught, "I will give you one of the Keys of the mysteries of the Kingdom. It is an eternal principle, that has existed with God from all eternity: That man who rises up to condemn other, finding fault with the Church, saying that they are out of the way, while he himself is righteous, then know assuredly, that that man is in the high road to apostasy; and if he does not repent, will apostatize, as God lives. The principle is as correct as the one that Jesus put forth in saying that he who seeketh a sign is an adulterous person; and that principle is eternal, undeviating, and firm as the pillars of heaven; for whenever you see a man seeking after a sign, you may set it down that he is an adulterous man." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, p.156)

A lot of people have heard this quote but haven't taken the time to figure out what he was saying. I can testify most assuredly that Joseph did not say "those who find fault or error in the leaders of the Church will be cut off from the Church." The individual himself is held to account, the individual himself will apostatize ie. leave. The other really important part of this equation is that of priestcraft- Joseph Smith is saying any man or woman who contends with the doctrines taught in the Church or the leaders of the Church with the intent to build themselves up as a light, to get gain or praise, are on the road to apostasy. It would be like taking a quote that said "any man that takes up a gun and shoots an innocent person someday will commit suicide" and turning the quote into "any man who has a gun I will kill." You are removing the action with the gun and inflicting the punishment yourself.

Maybe I'm beating a dead horse here. People will believe what they want to believe and people are listening to this going "yeah, I already knew all this" and others are shrieking and hardening their hearts and setting their hair on fire. Bottom line is: every member of the Church is an official representative of Jesus and his Church. Jesus gave you the authority- that does not mean he gave you the keys- there is a difference. The leaders of the Church are not perfect, just like us. When we forgive them, they forgive us. Pretending like either are perfect and holding neither accountable for mistakes damns both parties.

2. Conference, a confirmation:

Firstly, someone quoted President Nelson and it was actually a misquote. President Nelson was not the first to say it, President Nelson was actually quoting Joseph Smith. The quote was, ""The Spirit of Revelation is in connection with these blessings. A person may profit by noticing the first intimation of the spirit of revelation; for instance, when you feel pure intelligence flowing into you, it may give you sudden strokes of ideas, so that by noticing it, you may find it fulfilled the same day or soon; (i.e.,) those things that were presented unto your minds by the Spirit of God, will come to pass; and thus by learning the Spirit of God and understanding it, you may grow into the principle of revelation, until you become perfect in Christ Jesus." (TPJS, p.151)

Another similar quote:

John Taylor, while serving as President of the Quorum of the Twelve, reported: "I well remember a remark that Joseph Smith made to me upwards of forty years ago. Said he, 'Elder Taylor, you have been baptized, you have had hands laid upon your head for the reception of the Holy Ghost, and you have been ordained to the holy priesthood. Now, if you will continue to follow the leadings of that spirit, it will always lead you right. Sometimes it might be contrary to your judgment; never mind that, follow its dictates; and if you be true to its whisperings it will in time become in you a principle of revelation so that you will know all things.'" (John Taylor, Deseret News: Semi-Weekly, Jan. 15, 1878, p. 1.)

We heard a wonderful example of this playing out in real life at conference. Saturday morning when Sister Craig shared the story of being prompted to put down the cell phone in line and the next day listening to the prompting she had a mini miracle. Now that she followed through she could judge the fruit and know that what she had experienced was in fact the Holy Ghost. Knowing this, she will be better equipped to be able to recognize and identify real revelation and inspiration versus chemical responses in the body (ie. strange spirits). Another important thing to note is that Sister Craig was told that she needed to put down her cell phone, she was not and would never be told "that man over there, it's his birthday, go talk to him." Only those with keys over another individual can receive "thou shalt know" and "thou shalt do" for them. If you think that you are receiving such inspiration or revelation over those for whom you hold no keys, you are in fact hearkening to strange spirits. Satan and his angels know things such as that it was this old man's birthday, so does God. But God will never reveal said truths of thou shalt know and thou shalt do save it be through the keys. Whereas Satan and his followers wish to sow confusion. Satan and his angels would not tell you to do something good, but they would definitely tell you truth merely to get you addicted or dependent on that strange spirit, and then once you are completely dependent they will start leading you astray (the phrase that members might be familiar with is "mingling the philosophies of men with scripture"). The Church has a long history of warning against soothsayers, fortune tellers, etc. not because the Church believes that everything they say is false, but because the source of the knowledge and power is not of God.

With that said, since President Nelson became the prophet, conferences have turned in to a way for members to gain confirmation (ie. judge the fruit) for the inspiration and revelation they were taught from on high the previous six months. For example, the Lord told me that I needed to focus on specific things so I did. He then told me to post those specific things online, so I did. President Nelson's April 2020 Ensign article summarized what I was told to put together and put out. The next six months I was told what I needed to focus on, what I needed to do and what I needed to share with friends and family. The 10 virgins, the arm of flesh, the keys of the kingdom, the light of Christ, the Holy Ghost, the Second Comforter, Zion, New Jerusalem, a city of Holiness etc. Those friends and family of mine that have been reading what I have been putting out were shocked at how similar the themes were and even the choice of words (ie. arm of flesh). And what people get on my YouTube channel and online is obviously not 50% of what is going on in my life. For example, Ashley and I were told that we needed to make sure that our temple recommends were clicked in to the full two years. We texted our branch president about 7 days before conference and had a conversation with him about getting it renewed. He let us know that we have until the end of June and we told him that we would still like to get them renewed as soon as possible because we want to have the recommendation from the Lord for at least two years. During Elder Rasband's talk my branch president texted me, "You guys are on the ball. I will let you know soon when we can meet to do your recommends."

Much like how Sunday School works, you are supposed to study the lesson throughout the week and the teacher on Sunday, if you have done your job, shouldn't be teaching you new material, it should be a review and a confirmation. Once again, if you are waiting to act until the prophet tells you specifically to act, read or watch my paper *The Prepared Need Not Fear*. Only slothful servants behave like this. Conference is becoming a way to confirm and reaffirm those last 6 months of your life. Just like how Sunday is a way to reaffirm and confirm the last 6 days of your life. If you have been, the last 6 months, jumping down the rabbit hole of translations and raptures and manna raining from heaven etc this conference should have told you that you are listening to strange spirits and to plead with you to learn how to listen to the real spirit while you still can.

3. Call to wake up 10 Virgins:

"The Bridegroom Cometh" - Elder Bednar:

I completely agree, as I have said before, Elder Bednar could not have summarized my paper *The Parable of the 10 Virgins* better if he tried. He even compared temporal preparedness to the parable. That being said, I personally believe that it was far more than that. I read online and heard online multiple people thinking Bednar was sick because he looked sweaty and pale. My belief is that Elder Bednar looked and acted the way he did was because of two things: one, the Holy Spirit was resting on him which will have that effect on you and two, Elder Bednar knew the significance or relevance of what he was doing at that moment. Elder Bednar stood up and told the church, "the Bridegroom cometh." I believe that that is where we are in the parable. The virgins are now waking up and trimming their wick.

4. All is well in Zion, panicking and the prepared need not fear:

If the last point is correct, than what you would expect to see next is the wise virgins trimming their wicks and topping up their oil and foolish virgins panicking because they have no oil and are attempting to do years' worth of work in weeks, and others holding out to their "all is well in Zion, don't panic" philosophy to the very end. This is what you would expect if the parable was to play out and be fulfilled literally. And what happened after conference? Flour, rice etc on the Church's website- sold out indefinitely, no known date of when it will be back in stock. Panic and frantic buying across the board. You also have the "all is well in Zion" crowd going around telling people not to panic, just go off and acquire a drop of oil at a time etc., more in an attempt to console themselves than as a way to edify others. There is not time enough for this prophecy to play out again in so near perfection.

5. There isn't time to prepare:

In order for all of the prophecies and parables etc to be fulfilled there can be no "last minute preparations." You are not going to be able to get out of debt, build up a year's supply of food and water, you are not going to be able to repent and get a temple recommend etc etc. Obviously we will be judged based off of the light we have received and off of the light that was available at our fingertips that we neglected to learn. Those that spent their lives learning truths and living according to them; staying out of debt, being good stewards, always having a temple recommend, etc etc, unfortunately/fortunately will not be parked next to those that spent their entire life in Babylon and who desire at the last minute to jump hills, or God is a liar and the faith is lost. There is no "quit your band, fast a couple times and pray in your living room in a toga and don't get off your knees until you see Jesus and the Father"- that doesn't exist. Life is a proving ground and if you could prove something

in days, weeks or even a few years, why did God give us decades and in some cases centuries? As Elder Bednar poignantly reminded us, decades of repeated emphasis speak symphonies, volumes, which are far more powerful than any singular event. A lifetime of slowly getting better, a lifetime of always having your eye on the kingdom of glory, speaks volumes compared to events or periods of time. The same people who are frantically trying to prepare now are the same people who would stop preparing in a year or two if everything went back to normal. Whereas the people who have been preparing and living their lives outside of Babylon their whole lives will continue to do so regardless of what happens in the next couple years.

6. Evil with the aim to destroy the government vs those united in their growing hatred against those evil vs the righteous remnant:

I mention this in *Trump: A Fulfillment to Prophecy?* When reading 3 Nephi we see there will be three groups when everything falls apart. One group is evil, their aim is that of the destruction of the government. If you can't figure out which group this is, reading their own mission statements, I fear lest the light of Christ has completely ceased to strive with you. The second group becomes united in their desire to save the government, save the land of their inheritance, save their constitution. Eventually that group "has had enough", they are tired of the chaos, they are tired of having to bury their fathers, sons and daughters etc. They then swear in their wrath to kill and wipe out the other group and in so doing become wicked. The third group is the group that stands for law and order and peace. We are not to be evil and side with evil and thus support the "reimagining of the United States of America", but we are also commanded to love and forgive and to not give in to hatred and thus wickedness. Soon the third group, the righteous group, by and large was and will become the smallest group. This theme and warning was echoed in the conference. This is at the doorstep.

7. Isaiah Chapter 3 is coming:

President Eyring mentioned that more than half of Zion will be women. Where is he getting this? He is getting this from Isaiah chapter 3. That is the only place in holy writ, as far as I know, that identifies genders and numerical differences. Watch or read my paper *Understanding Isaiah Chapter 3* and then go back and watch the entire Relief Society conference. If you can't see that Isaiah 3 is on the doorstep, then God help us.

8. Listing promises to Israel is 100% last day timelines:

I busted my gut laughing at members after the conference and after listening to President Nelson's talk in which he committed members of the Church to look for and study all the promises that were made to the house of Israel. After which members flooded the online scene to say that we needed to stop "debating" or "arguing" about "last day timelines". Not coincidentally so, these also happen to be the same members from point two above who were already coming away from the conference feeling a bit miffed because they now know they had been listening to strange spirits. They then told everyone what we should be doing is what President Nelson told us to do- search out and learn of all the promises God made to Israel. The Book of Mormon title pages reads, "[This book] is to show unto the remnant of the House of Israel what great things the Lord hath done for their fathers; and that they may know the covenants of the Lord [to them], that they are not cast off forever."

Some of us haven't been spending our time in strange forums and strange groups and haven't been spending our entire effort and time trying to interpret members of other faiths dreams, the weeks of Daniel etc. Some of us have used the Book of Mormon and specifically the promises made to the House of Israel, created points of reference with those promises and have created macro last day timelines using them. Going through my *Jesus Christ's Macro Last Day Timeline*, 100% of those points of references were promises directly from the Lord to the House of Israel, including promises made to specific individuals such as Joseph Smith for "ye are the House of Israel!" The Lord says "and then o House of Israel I will build you a house and after I build you a house, I will lead you to the house and put you in it". And we look at that and we know that a. the Lord promised to build a house b. promised to gather the house of Israel and c. promised to put them in the house. It is literally impossible to study the promises made to the House of Israel without being taught points of reference and last day timelines at the same time.

This was not a call from the prophet to stop talking about last day timelines generally, this was single-handedly one of the greatest call outs for me and those like me to keep doing what we are doing and for other members to start doing it too. Members heard that and it went in one ear and out the other. They had ears but they could not hear, they had eyes but they could not see; so much so that they came out of it with a 180 degree difference from what they were really supposed to do. It would be like if members were disputing about whether or not we should be making bread or should be making salads and the prophet stood up and said "everyone needs to study this bread recipe book" and members walked away from the lesson and went right up to the bread and salad people and said "you are both wrong, stop arguing, the prophet said to study this bread cookbook so that's what we are going to do." And the salad people realizing they have egg on their face jump on the bandwagon, "Yeah! Let's just get along and stop this!" You were wrong, admit you were wrong, and then repent and I can promise you that you will feel a lot better about yourself. If you have been listening to or learning from individuals such as myself who have been teaching how to make bread, turning around and reading the bread cookbook is actually regressive. You already know the recipe, you've been busy learning how to make bread with the recipe.

It will be a sad state when those reading the bread recipe book get to the last step which reads "then take the bread out of the oven" and they realize that the potluck is already ended. Likewise, it will be a sad state when members study the promises made to the House of Israel and once they are done and look down at the paper in front of them and all they see is the macro timeline. I pray to God they will have the humility to do the repenting that they probably should do and make the apologies that they should offer at that time. And that is all that I will say about this as I'm sure already I have members feigning outrage because they can't tell the difference between God's intelligence and their own rage. And so they will project their rage onto me and claim that I am the one full of rage despite the fact I am as calm and collected as a Skittle's rainbow shooting forth from the backside of a unicorn.

9. The Generation:

This one was hammered home not just at the conference but also watching the presidential debates. By "the generation" I am referring to my paper with the same name. I don't believe it is a coincidence at all that you look through politics and you see the oldest generation in politics that has ever existed; you have the two frontrunner presidential candidates whose average age of life is by in large the highest it

has ever been. After the debate I think the number one meme or saying that kept cropping up was something along the lines of “okay, we can all agree, this needs to be the last boomer.”

Once again, I don't think it is a coincidence that you look at the Presidency and the Twelve Apostles and it is the oldest the church has ever seen. The youngest apostle called in the last decade was over 60. The youngest apostle called in the last two decades was around 50. If you go back to Thomas S. Monson, he was called to be an apostle when he was 36. Joseph F. Smith became an apostle at 28. And if you go back to the beginning, Joseph Smith was in his early twenties and a lot of the apostles called were around the same age, Wilford Woodruff being 21.

“That generation” is single-handedly in charge of every facet of life and thus society and thus is and will be held primarily responsible for the success or lack thereof of these the United States of America and the Church. They are the ones that hold the keys and thus they are the ones who hold the talents. The paper *The Generation* is playing out in the United States of America. The Parable of the Talents will be playing out soon. As my mission president always said, “we are given keys to either exalt us or condemn us” or as President Ezra Taft Benson said, “the Lord puts you on a ledge and gives you just enough rope to see if you will climb out or lower yourself down.” “That Generation” took a lot of responsibility, kept it, and has never looked back or thought of relinquishing said power or stepping down, “only over their cold dead bodies.” My fear is that the Lord will oblige them. When Joseph comes back and reorganizes the Church and the “young and middle aged men” become the new leaders of the Church, I fear lest the entire old generation of members will apostatize because they failed to humble themselves- watch or read my *Agency in Progression* series and pay close attention to the real definition of pride. Until that day, however, we follow the keys where ever they lead us.

10. Racism is not the problem, being beholden to Babylon and the Assyrian is:

This is the Assyrian or “agenda” that I mentioned in my first video. I find it somewhat shocking and somewhat disappointing at how much members take this out of context and light their hair on fire over, like what I said or taught with regards to this (the Parable of the Nobleman and the Olive Trees) is dangerous or “jumping to conclusions”. This is not a multi-step equation, this is a single-step equation. The Lord said, “Build Zion, the New Jerusalem, and build her up on the principles of celestial law and I will make that city a city of Holiness, and having that city of Holiness will allow you to stand independent of all nations.” Look out the window- is Zion, the New Jerusalem, a city of Holiness there? No. Period. There is only one alternative then available to us or Christ is a liar, and that is, because we failed to build the tower and make ourselves independent of all nations, we then by default, have to be and are **dependent** on all nations and creatures under heaven. This is not jumping to conclusions, this is not a complicated formula. If Christ said the only way to be independent of all creatures under heaven is to do ___ and we failed to do ___ that makes us, by default, dependent.

Glenn Beck, the week before general conference talking to Pat (both of which are members of the Church), said that they were looking forward to conference because the leaders of the Church need to inform and teach the members how to combat and fight against the forces of evil in the correct way (this harks back to point six above). Glenn Beck then correctly identified Facebook, YouTube, Apple, BLM, NAACP, as “the evil” or as we in the Church should identify it, “the Assyrian”. Since conference, Glenn Beck has been eerily silent on the conference. This is entirely due to his very public platform and so he has to be doubly and triply careful with everything he says. He has decided that staying silent is the safest course of action. That being said, Glenn Beck went out of his way, in an interview with Dinesh

D'Souza, to ask him why he thinks corporations, churches, businesses etc are "kissing the ring" of the Assyrian. This is a clever way of Glenn Beck to get somebody else to say what he believes is too dangerous for he himself to say. Below is a transcript of the exchange:

Glenn Beck: "Why do these companies... why does Nike, why do all these big companies support all these radical socialist agendas [such as the NAACP, BLM, etc.]?"

DD: "I think that there are two reasons for companies like Nike, I think when you find these entrepreneurs the marginal value of a dollar to them becomes very low, in other words, Phil Knight doesn't need another buck to improve his standard of living, but what he does need is 'social cool' and the left controls the organs of cultural accolades. So how does Phil Knight get on the board for Harvard, how does he get an honorary degree, how does he get invited to Lincoln Center, how does he get to go to the Oscars and sit right next to Steven Spielberg? The answer is that he plays the cultural game of the left and that's more important to him than it is let's say, to pay a little bit of a lower tax rate for example or to have a little bit less regulation on his company. I think that's one factor. The second factor, that last factor was the carrot, now let's talk "the stick". The left has a stick that has a greater ability to punish these corporations and terrify them so all they have to do is stand in front of a company and say 'this corporation is racist' and I think you know as well as I do that they will have emergency board meetings in 15 minutes and come running out with their check book and ask 'what amount can they pay to make those ten guys go away and not make those public accusations?' and so these companies are terrified of what 'the left' can do to them by stigmatizing them. We have no equivalent ability to do that. Our only ability or recourse is to 'not shop, let's not go to Disney World!' well think of what weak leverage that is!

Glenn Beck: *laughs* yeah...

DD: Over the left's ability to really stigmatize these companies...

Glenn Beck: And the left, to be able to make Disney world, all of our kids, really want to go to Disney World, cause it's a great place... and there doesn't seem to be another choice that agrees with us...

Everyone with two functioning eyes, two ears and a brain knows that America is the least racist place on the planet, and quantifiably so. The only combatant to racism is meritocracy with a constitution. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is no different. All are free to enjoy all the keys necessary for salvation within her walls. Holding the priesthood is not a requirement for salvation for women and it was not a requirement for Africans when they were not allowed to hold it. Meaning, there has never been a time in the history of the Church when a member was withheld from the keys of salvation based off of race or gender. Racism and sexism has not been or will never be a problem for the Church as an entity; you could make a case for ageism and/or nepotism, but that's neither here nor there.

But I hear one say, "You don't know what you are talking about, there were racists in my ward and that's what got me to go inactive!" Firstly, the prophets have been crystal clear on this- if you go inactive because of the actions of another member, that is your "choice" and you will be accountable for that choice, regardless of the other member's actions. Those members will also be held to an account for their actions, but their actions do not alleviate you of your choice. Secondly, there are a-holes in and out of the Church everywhere you go. The Lord himself had to stop himself mid revelation when describing the Church as being perfect to clarify, "I speak of the Church collectively, not individually." Individual

members will be judged as individual members, the Church collectively is another matter entirely. And the Church collectively has never and will never view race as a prerequisite for salvation. Obedience to the principles and ordinances and the keys of the kingdom are the prerequisites for salvation.

We were told again, and correctly so, that the Book of Mormon is our guidebook for our day. I challenge people to read the Book of Mormon and circle every time Nephi, Mormon, Moroni etc (those who saw our day) mentioned racism as the downfall of Ephraim or Gentile countries. I'll wait. The Lamanites were taught to hate the Nephites, the Nephites grew to hate the Lamanites because of the Lamanites' actions, not their race or skin colors or "the furs they wore" (LOLOLOL).

So why so much emphasis in conference about Nephites' "racism" against Lamanites and not a single mention of Lamanites actually being taught to hate the Nephites? Glenn Beck asked the same question to Dinesh D'Souza above. Joseph Smith also asked this question of the Lord, "what are we as leaders of the Church and Saints to do until we build the tower?" (ie. when we are not independent of all creatures and are thus dependant, how should we live and what should we do?) The Lord answered in D&C 82:

22 And now, verily I say unto you, and this is wisdom, make unto yourselves friends with the mammon of unrighteousness, and they will not destroy you.

23 Leave judgment alone with me, for it is mine and I will repay. Peace be with you; my blessings continue with you.

24 For even yet the kingdom is yours, and shall be forever, if you fall not from your steadfastness. Even so. Amen.

Joseph Fielding Smith explained these scriptures thus, "The commandment of the Lord that the saints should make themselves 'friends with the mammon of unrighteousness,' seems to be a hard saying when not properly understood. It is not intended that in making friends of the 'mammon of unrighteousness' that the brethren were to partake with them in their sins; to receive them to their bosoms, intermarry with them and otherwise come down to their level. They were to so live that peace with their enemies might be assured. They were to treat them kindly, be friendly with them as far as correct and virtuous principles would permit, but never to swear with them or drink and carouse with them. If they could allay prejudice and show a willingness to trade with and show a kindly spirit, it might help to turn them away from their bitterness. Judgment was to be left with the Lord." (Church History and Modern Revelation, 2 vols. [1953], 1:323; see also Doctrine and Covenants Student Manual, 2nd ed. [Church Educational System manual, 2001], 179.)

The leaders of the Church know that racism is not the most pressing issue in the Church, let alone the world. But they do know that the Assyrian is here, he has broken down the hedges and he is robbing the fruit of the olive trees and is in the process of destroying them. They know that they did not build Zion, New Jerusalem, we are not living celestial law, we do not have a city of Holiness; we did not build the tower. That leaves them only one course of action, and that is to make friends with mammon and try to unite on principles that we can actually agree on in an attempt to get them to not smack the Church with their stick (in the words of Dinesh D'Souza).

Brothers and Sisters, let us continue to learn how to Hear Him, receive revelation and inspiration line upon line, precepts upon precepts until we become principles of revelation unto ourselves. There are so many prophecies being fulfilled in front of our eyes to such a near exactness it is stunning. It would take

literally decades for such prophecies to be fulfilled in such near perfection again. Keep preparing, don't stop preparing and as you do so I can promise you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that ye shall not fear. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.