

## Fireside: January 17<sup>th</sup> 2021

*“As you keep your covenants with increasing precision, and as you defend the Church and kingdom of God on the earth today, the Lord will bless you with strength and wisdom to accomplish what ONLY members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can accomplish”*

*– President Nelson (Preparing the World for the Savior’s Second Coming)*

**-What did our Prophet of God, President Nelson mean when he said there are things for which ONLY members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can accomplish? What are things that ONLY members of the church can accomplish?**

We are unique as the Restored Church of Jesus Christ because we aren’t commanded to sit around and just wait for the end of the world or some rapture that will give us a freebie through the challenges of life. We are commanded to “prepare the world for the Second Coming” and work with the Lord and His angels to gather out the elect.

When Moroni came to Joseph Smith, he said the Restoration was to make sure that the whole earth wasn’t utterly wasted at His coming. Looking at the scriptures, the only way to avoid this is to weld or seal the generations together into the Abrahamic Covenant. D&C 110 and the keys received by Joseph show a vision of what God expects us to do. These keys include:

### From Moses

- To gather scattered Israel (preach the gospel and invite all to come to Christ)
- To lead the 10 tribes from the North (giving them their temple blessings when they return)

### Elias

- Dispensation of the Gospel of Abraham (i.e. the extension of the Abrahamic sealing blessings to all who will receive them!)

### Elijah

- Seal the generations of all the earth to the dispensation heads as one big family (temple work for living and dead)

We MUST do our work, or the earth will be wasted. Any time we sit around not knowing what to do or waiting for a rapture that ain’t coming is just simply failing in our calling. As D&C 63:57 says this is a “day of warning... and not many words.”

Bro. Andrus likened our work as Latter-day Saints to a great building crew, laboring on Zion. Our job is to go to the keys and get our daily assignments, then magnify and beautify our part of the job. As we do that, in harmony with the keys of the Priesthood and with the Spirit, we’re going to be mighty instruments in God’s hand to do what he ACTUALLY called us to do, and not miss the mark.

Elder Holland called this “staying out of the weeds” and said Pres. Hinckley used to counsel that we need to “stay in the fairway” doing what the Lord has asked of us. Don’t worry about counting weeks and watching stars, worry about your family, ministering assignments, and people placed in your path that only you can bless and reach.

We are to be builders of an individual faith in God, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and faith in His Church. We are to build families and be sealed in holy temples. We are to build the Church and kingdom of God upon the earth (see [Matthew 6:33](#)). We are to prepare for our own divine destiny: glory, immortality, and eternal lives (see [Romans 2:7](#); [Doctrine and Covenants 75:5](#)).

In short, we are to proclaim the gospel, perfect the Saints, and redeem the dead.

COME FOLLOW ME January 11-17<sup>th</sup>:

“It had been three years since God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph Smith in the grove, but Joseph hadn’t received any additional revelations since then. He began to wonder about his standing before the Lord. Like all of us, he had made mistakes, and he felt condemned by them. **Yet God still had a work for him to do. And the work Joseph was called to do is connected to what God asks of us.** Joseph would bring forth the Book of Mormon; what have we been asked to do with it? Joseph would receive priesthood keys to turn the hearts of the children to their fathers; how are we turning our hearts to our ancestors? Joseph was told of prophecies that would soon be fulfilled; what is our part in helping to fulfill them? **When** we take part in God’s work, we can expect to face opposition and even persecution, just as the Prophet did. But we can also have faith that the Lord will make us instruments in His hands, just as He did for Joseph. God has a work for me to do.

As you read Joseph Smith—History 1:27–33 [and Doctrine and Covenants chapter 2], consider that God **has a work for you to do, as He did for Joseph Smith.** Ponder this invitation from President Russell M. Nelson: “Ask your Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, how He feels about you and your mission here on earth. If you ask with real intent, over time the Spirit will whisper **the life-changing truth to you.** ... I promise you that when you begin to catch even a glimpse of how your Heavenly Father sees you and what He is counting on you to do for Him, your life will never be the same!” (“Becoming True Millennials” [worldwide devotional for young adults, Jan. 10, 2016], [broadcasts.ChurchofJesusChrist.org](#)).

Doctrine and Covenants Chapter 2:

“Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers. If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming.”

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and ONLY The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints holds these keys. Period. As members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints we are the only people on the entire planet who can and will do this work. Period.

John Taylor taught:

“Well, here we are, and who are we? We are Saints of the Most High God, are we not? And after all our weakness and infirmities, we are the best people there is under the face of the heavens, by a thousand fold. Poor as we are, weak as we are, changeable, afflicted as we are, still we are the best people God has upon the earth. If truth is revealed anywhere, it is here; if God communicates His will to the human family anywhere, it is here. If anybody can enlighten mankind, this people can; and if the nations of the earth, with their kings, potentates, and powers, are ever exalted in the kingdom of God, ever receive the light, truth, and intelligence of heaven, it will be through the means of this people. We are His servants; we are enlisted for life in the kingdom of

God, to do His bidding, and to walk in obedience to His laws, to sustain His kingdom, to roll forth His purposes, and do whatsoever He shall think fit to require of us.” (John Taylor, *Journal of Discourses*, Men Eternal Beings, Etc, pg. 373)

### **-Can non-members hold the priesthood? Can non-members build temples? Has this ever NOT been the case?**

Brigham Young – “I have many times asked the questions, ‘Where is the man that knows how to lay the first rock for the wall that is to surround the New Jerusalem or the Zion of God on the earth? Where is the man who knows how to construct the first gate of the city? Where is the man who understands how to build up the kingdom of God in its purity and to prepare for Zion to come down to meet it?’

“‘Well,’ says one, ‘I thought the Lord was going to do this.’ So He is if we will let Him. That is what we want: we want the people to be willing for the Lord to do it. But He will do it by means.

“He will not send His angels to gather up the rock to build up the New Jerusalem. He will not send His angels from the heavens to go to the mountains to cut the timber and make it into lumber to adorn the city of Zion. **He has called upon us to do this work; and if we will let Him work by, through, and with us, He can accomplish it; otherwise we shall fall short, and shall never have the honor of building up Zion on the earth.**”

Brigham Young, April 17, 1870, *Journal of Discourses* 13:313;

D&C 84: 20-22

20 Therefore, in the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest.

21 And **without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh;**

22 For without this no man can see the face of God, even the Father, and live.

We do have examples of church buildings that were repurposed as temples. The Copenhagen Denmark temple was originally built in 1931 and was converted to a temple in 1999. Both Provo and Vernal tabernacles were renovated as temples.

All 3 were LDS buildings used for worship before. I think this issue comes up in regards specifically to the temple in Jerusalem. And so I do believe they could build their temple but for it to be a temple that the Lord enters it would first be dedicated by those with keys. And as Israel won't even let us proselytize in their nation, I doubt they would be open to us dedicating it and then only allowing LDS temple recommend holders to enter into it. When Titus the roman put up his statue in their temple in 70 ad that was the spark that ignited the revolution of the Jews and the subsequent ransacking of the city. This was the abomination that led to the desolation of Jerusalem.

Quote from the D&C Manual:

Doctrine and Covenants 68:14–21. The office of bishop and descendants of Aaron

At the time the revelation recorded in Doctrine and Covenants 68 was given, Edward Partridge served as the only bishop in the Church. However, the Lord promised that in due time He would call “other bishops” (D&C 68:14). A month later, on December 4, 1831, the Lord called Newel K. Whitney to serve as the bishop for Ohio (see D&C 72:1–8). Those called to serve as bishops were to be high priests in good standing, called and appointed by the First Presidency. However, the Lord also revealed that firstborn sons of Aaron’s literal descendants have a right to this office by virtue of lineage **if called, found worthy, and ordained** by the Presidency of the High Priesthood (the First Presidency). Anciently, Moses’ brother Aaron was the presiding high priest of the Aaronic Priesthood. In ancient Israel, only descendants of Aaron could hold the office of priest, and the high priest was selected from among the firstborn of his descendants.

President Joseph Fielding Smith explained that the provision about descendants of Aaron in Doctrine and Covenants 68:15–21 refers **to the office of Presiding Bishop of the Church: “This has reference only to the one who presides over the Aaronic Priesthood. It has no reference whatever to bishops of wards. Further, such a one must be designated by the First Presidency of the Church and receive his anointing and ordination under their hands.** ... In the absence of knowledge concerning such a descendant, any high priest, chosen by the Presidency, may hold the office of Presiding Bishop” (Doctrines of Salvation, comp. Bruce R. McConkie [1956], 3:92–93; see also D&C 107:13–16, 69–83).

Quote from Elder Bruce R. McConkie

"An occasional **whiff of nonsense** goes around the Church acclaiming that the Lamanites will build the temple in the New Jerusalem and that Ephraim and others will come to their assistance. This illusion is born of an inordinate love for Father Lehi's children and of a desire to see them all become now as Samuel the Lamanite once was. The Book of Mormon passages upon which it is thought to rest have reference not to the Lamanites but to the whole house of Israel. **The temple in Jackson County will be built by Ephraim, meaning the Church as it is now constituted; this is where the keys of temple building are vested, and it will be to this Ephraim that all the other tribes will come in due course to receive their temple blessings.**" (Bruce R. McConkie, A New Witness, p. 519)

**-Can the Lord work through non-members? What's the difference? What will the Lord NEVER DO, or rather CAN NEVER DO through non-members? What or how does he use non-members?**

The Lord declares in **Doctrine and Covenants** 101:80: "I established the Constitution of this land, by the hands of **wise men** whom I **raised up** unto this very purpose."

Ezra 1:1-7 – the Lord prompted Cyrus to support the building of the temple. So he helped and allowed it, but v. 5 says:

"Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all *them* whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the Lord which *is* in Jerusalem."

Thus, the **Levites** who held the keys for temple work at the time, and the priests (who obviously held the Levitical priesthood), built the temple. In the last days, the Lord will likely use political leaders to cooperate in the building of the New and Old Jerusalem temples, but **the keys will direct the work.**

Bodies terrestrial vs bodies celestial.

**D&C 76; 75-79**

75. These are they who are honorable men of the earth, who were blinded by the craftiness of men.

76 These are they who receive of his glory, but not of his fulness.

77 These are they who receive of the presence of the Son, but not of the fulness of the Father.

78 Wherefore, they are bodies terrestrial, and not bodies celestial, and differ in glory as the moon differs from the sun.

79 These are they who are not valiant in the testimony of Jesus; wherefore, they obtain not the crown over the kingdom of our God.

Have light of Christ and can reflect that light they do not have the light of the sun(son) and often don't recognize the source there of. They get can be distracted by having some light but under the light of the moon you are still in relative darkness. And Telestial bodies reject Christ and his gospel completely and like the wicked laminates to the nephrite's usually a hindrance to the saints. Micah had more to say...

In Isaiah chapter 10 (verses 5-7) we read of the Assyrian:

"O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. ***I will send him*** against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few."

In 1 Nephi 2 (20-24) we read:

"And inasmuch as ye shall keep my commandments, ye shall prosper, and shall be led to a land of promise; yea, even a land which I have prepared for you; yea, a land which is choice above all other lands. And inasmuch as thy brethren shall rebel against thee, they shall be cut off from the presence of

the Lord. And inasmuch as thou shalt keep my commandments, thou shalt be made a ruler and a teacher over thy brethren. For behold, in that day that they shall rebel against me, I will curse them even with a sore curse, and they shall have no power over thy seed except they shall rebel against me also. And if it so be that they rebel against me, **they shall be a scourge unto thy seed, to stir them up in the ways of remembrance.**"

The king of Babylon, Pharaoh, the Assyrian, the Lamanites, etc. If the Lord uses "wicked people not of the covenant" it is primarily and entirely for the cause to scourge, to stir the covenant people up unto repentance and nothing else. For once again, as we learned from John Taylor above, "If truth is revealed anywhere, **it is here**; if God communicates His will to the human family anywhere, **it is here**. If anybody can enlighten mankind, this people can; and if the nations of the earth, with their kings, potentates, and powers, are ever exalted in the kingdom of God, ever receive the light, truth, and intelligence of heaven, it will be through the means of **this people.**"

**-Even if a non-member gets used by the Lord, does this equate to exaltation in the highest degree of the Celestial Kingdom? If there are non-members of the church during the early part of the millennium, does this equate to the exaltation in the highest degree of the Celestial Kingdom for these non-members? What is required for that blessing?**

"If a man gets a fulness of the priesthood of God, he has to get it in the same way that Jesus Christ obtained it, and that was **by keeping all the commandments and obeying all the ordinances of the house of the Lord.** ...

"All men who become heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ will **have to receive the fulness of the ordinances of his kingdom; and those who will not receive all the ordinances will come short of the fulness of that glory.**"

*History of the Church, 5:424; spelling modernized; from a discourse given by Joseph Smith on June 11, 1843, in Nauvoo, Illinois; reported by Wilford Woodruff and Willard Richards;*

Straight from the church's website under

**Who will be on the earth during the Millennium, and what will they be doing?**

Those remaining on the earth during the Millennium will be the good people of the earth—those who were righteous and just, regardless of their religion. This includes those who will be on the earth at the time of the Second Coming as well as those who will be resurrected at that time and other times throughout the Millennium. The wicked will not remain on the earth and will not be resurrected until after the Millennium.

Goal being to bring people to Christ.

"what is required for that blessing?"

I went over this in my last video polygamy round 2. Careful study of Section 132 in D&C explains that the only way to enter into the highest kingdom is through the new and everlasting covenant of marriage sealed by those with authority once again these are they who have been given the keys. And that marriage must then be sealed by the holy spirit of promise. (Must receive the greater light)

The simple answer is “no”. We need to remember that 1. There are three degrees of the Celestial Kingdom and 2. Only things of a telestial order will be destroyed at the Great and Dreadful day, meaning terrestrial people will still be present. These non-members who made the choice to remain non-members will be at best terrestrial. We learn what is required for exaltation in the highest degree of the Celestial Kingdom in Doctrine and Covenants 76, which include:

- They are they who received the testimony of Jesus, and believed on his name and were baptized after the manner of his burial, being buried in the water in his name, and this according to the commandment which he has given (ie “being baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints”)
- [They] keep the commandments they might be washed and cleansed from all their sins, and receive the Holy Spirit by the laying on of the hands of him who is ordained and sealed unto this power (ie. “being confirmed members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and keeping the commandments”)
- [They] are priests of the Most High, after the order of Melchizedek, which was after the order of Enoch, which was after the order of the Only Begotten Son. (ie. “the men hold the priesthood worthily”)
- They are they who are priests and kings, who have received of his fulness, and of his glory (ie. “they have been sealed as a couple”)
- They shall overcome all things by faith, and are sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise, which the Father sheds forth upon all those who are just and true. They are they who are the church of the Firstborn. (ie. “they prevail WITH God and have their callings and elections made sure”)

Those who receive the terrestrial kingdom are they who (continuing in D&C 76):

- Who received not the testimony of Jesus in the flesh, but afterwards received it. (ie “no second chance theory”)
- These are they who are honorable men of the earth, who were blinded by the craftiness of men. (ie. “Christians who don’t convert”)
- These are they who receive of his glory, but not of his fulness. These are they who receive of the presence of the Son, but not of the fulness of the Father. These are they who are not valiant in the testimony of Jesus; wherefore, they obtain not the crown over the kingdom of our God. (ie. “members who receive the Light of Christ but reject the Holy Ghost, members who join the church but who are not valiant”)

It is clear who will be around and who will be exalted; who will be receiving crowns and who will be watching others receive them. To compare the two groups and make them equals is to compare the sun to the moon and say they are equals, that is to say, it is to make one the fool.

**-President Nelson has often preached for a greater sense of urgency, what would be the effect of understanding our responsibilities and duties that only members can perform? Believing the opposite, in the words of Elder Bruce R. McConkie, these ‘whiffs of nonsense’ that get spread around the church that God can perform His work outside of the church, what would be the effects of believing THAT on one’s sense of urgency?**

We have a mission NOW! To preach the gospel and build the kingdom.

We MUST do our work, or the earth will be wasted. Any time we sit around not knowing what to do or waiting for a rapture that ain't coming is just simply failing in our calling. As D&C 63:57 says this is a "day of warning... and not many words."

In Alma 34

33 And now, as I said unto you before, as ye have had so many witnesses, therefore, I beseech of you that ye do not procrastinate the day of your repentance until the end; for after this day of life, which is given us to prepare for eternity, behold, if we do not improve our time while in this life, then cometh the night of darkness wherein there can be no labor performed.

34 Ye cannot say, when ye are brought to that awful crisis, that I will repent, that I will return to my God. Nay, ye cannot say this; for that same spirit which doth possess your bodies at the time that ye go out of this life, that same spirit will have power to possess your body in that eternal world.

First seek to obtain my word. Then to share his word. You don't need to know everything about all things you can learn one thing about something and take it to heart and share it.

Alma Chapter 31: 5

"And now, as the preaching of the word had a great tendency to lead the people to do that which was just—yea, it had had more powerful effect upon the minds of the people than the sword, or anything else, which had happened unto them—therefore Alma thought it was expedient that they should try the virtue of the word of God."

If preaching the true Word of God was the greatest force for positive results/change, then by virtue of that the teaching of false doctrines is the greatest force for negative results/change.

Jesus taught the importance of avoiding these false doctrines and teachings in Matthew 16:

"Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees... Then understood [the disciples that Jesus] bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."

Elder Bruce R. McConkie explained that this teaching of the Savior can be likened to the need to beware of false doctrines and philosophies in all ages: "Literally, leaven is a substance that produces fermentation, as for instance yeast which causes bread to rise. Figuratively, leaven is any element which, by its fermenting, spreading influence, affects groups of people so that they believe and act in particular ways. Thus to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees is to shun their false doctrines, their concept that the Messiah must prove his claim to divinity by signs, for instance. Similarly, today, the warning is to beware of the leaven of any group whose false doctrines and antichrist philosophies work to keep men from accepting the truths of the restored gospel" (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 1:379).

Elder Scott D. Whiting in his talk and my breakdown of it we learn that "what we surround ourselves with directly impacts our desire, and our desire directly feeds into our actions, ie the results". Ergo we

need to surround ourselves with the true gospel messages which will increase our desires to act; vs surrounding ourselves with false doctrines which cause us to sit back and hope with a false, vain hope, that Christ and the Father will just do the work through some other means and some other peoples. This belief and behavior will damn us.

**-Members will be held responsible for their duties, as well as for the “whiffs of non-sense” they spread throughout the church, etc. This responsibility comes with a duty for members to live up to, how are we doing? What are some ways we can self-evaluate and improve?**

“During the space of time which intervened between the time I had the vision and the year eighteen hundred and twenty-three—having been forbidden to join any of the religious sects of the day, and being of very tender years, and persecuted by those who **ought to have been my friends and to have treated me kindly, and if they supposed me to be deluded to have endeavored in a proper and affectionate manner to have reclaimed me**—I was left to all kinds of temptations; and, mingling with all kinds of society, I frequently fell into many foolish errors, and displayed the weakness of youth, and the foibles of human nature;”

- JSH 1:28

We can do what others should have done: treat people kindly and endeavor in a proper and affectionate manner to reclaim them. While Joseph of course was not misguided, he laid out a clear Christlike pattern for reclaiming souls.

Living among the tares, it has been harder and harder to tell true doctrine because some wolves are acting like sheep. They look and act like sheep but it is only when they open their mouths that you see the fangs. We have to be able to tell the voice of the Lord be the voice of the world. That is reason I started making videos. First I wanted to get the doctrine straight so I didn't start mimicking the voice of the wolf and second I'm genuinely worried about the number of us who are getting confused. And the only way to do this is to hear Him and get others to hear Him too.

Head the prophet's counsel and ask yourself, “what are you struggling with, if anything, about the church?”. And put it to the test. Bring it to God with an open mind and study what he has said in the scriptures and @ lds.org. I knew polygamy was a sore spot with me and studying it for the last 2 weeks has been transformative for my testimony.

Elder John Taylor has said, "If you do not magnify your callings, God will hold you responsible for those whom you might have saved had you done your duty." (Journal of Discourses, 20:23.)

JSH: 28-29

“...Being of very tender years, and persecuted by those who ought to have been my friends and to have treated me kindly, and if they supposed me to be deluded to have endeavored in a proper and affectionate manner to have reclaimed me—I was left to all kinds of temptations; and, **mingling with all kinds of society**, I frequently fell into many foolish errors, and displayed the weakness of youth, and the foibles of human nature; which, I am sorry to say, led me into divers temptations, offensive in the sight of God ... I was guilty of levity, and **sometimes associated with jovial company**, etc., not consistent with that character which ought to be maintained by one who was called of God as I had been. In

consequence of these things, I often felt condemned for my weakness and imperfections; when, on the evening of the above-mentioned twenty-first of September, after I had retired to my bed for the night, I betook myself to prayer and supplication to Almighty God for forgiveness of all my sins and follies, and also for a manifestation to me, that I might know of my state and standing before him; for I had full confidence in obtaining a divine manifestation, as I previously had one.”

COME FOLLOW ME January 11-17<sup>th</sup>:

“You may sometimes feel the way Joseph did in verses 28–29. What can you learn from Joseph’s example about what to do when your actions are not consistent with the work God has called you to do?”

We can learn 1. That “who we mingle with”, “who we sometimes associate with jovial company”, etc. is a lot bigger deal than most people realize and 2. If we repent the Lord will forgive us and put us on the right path, if we remain on that path.

**-Who will get to participate in those wonderful blessings? Who will get to participate in those miracles and prophecies that “ONLY members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints” can be?**

***Luke 12:35-48 – Parable of the Faithful Servant***

35 Let your loins be girded about, **and** your lights burning; (spiritual and temporal preparedness)

36 And ye yourselves like unto **men that wait for their lord**, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open **unto him immediately**.

37 Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

42 And the Lord said, Who then is that **faithful and wise steward**, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?

43 **Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.**

44 **Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.**

45 But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;

46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

47 And that servant, which knew his lord’s will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. **For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.**

D&C 112:24-26

24 Behold, vengeance cometh speedily upon the inhabitants of the earth, a day of wrath, a day of burning, a day of desolation, of weeping, of mourning, and of lamentation; and as a whirlwind it shall come upon all the face of the earth, saith the Lord.

25 And **upon my house shall it begin, and from my house shall it go forth**, saith the Lord;

26 First among those among you, saith the Lord, who have professed to know my name and have not known me, and have blasphemed against me in the midst of my house, saith the Lord.

We are among the vanguard servants called to prepare the way. Much has been given to us, and much is required. We are the ones that must bear off this Kingdom or the Earth will be wasted.

Growing up my ward did a carnival activity....

I hated being there alone.

Heber C Kimball: "I want to say to you, my brethren, the time is coming when we will be mixed up in these now peaceful valleys to that extent that it will be difficult to tell the face of a Saint from the face of an enemy to the people of God. Then, brethren, look out for the great sieve, for there will be a great sifting time, and many will fall; for I say unto you there is a test, a Test, a TEST coming, and who will be able to stand? This church has before it many close places through which it must pass before the work of God is crowned with victory. To meet the difficulties that are coming it will be necessary for you to have knowledge of the truth of this work for yourselves. The difficulties will be of such character that the man or woman who does not possess this personal knowledge or witness will fall. If you have not got the testimony, live right and call upon the Lord and cease not 'till you obtain it. If you do not, you will not stand. " (Orson F. Whitney, Life of Heber C. Kimball, Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1945, p. 446.)

"[for] the Saints will be put to a test that will try the integrity of the best of them. The pressure will become so great that the more righteous among them will cry unto the Lord day and night until deliverance comes.

Then the Prophet Joseph and others will make their appearance **and those who have remained faithful** will be selected to return to Jackson County, Missouri and take part in the building of that beautiful city, the New Jerusalem." (Heber C. Kimball, First Counselor in the First Presidency, May 1868, in Deseret News, 23 May 1931; see also Conference Report, Oct. 1930, p. 58-59)

D&C 133: 26-34

"And they who are in the north countries shall come in remembrance before the Lord; and their prophets shall hear his voice, and shall no longer stay themselves; and they shall smite the rocks, and the ice shall flow down at their presence. And an highway shall be cast up in the midst of the great deep. Their enemies shall become a prey unto them, And in the barren deserts there shall come forth pools of living water; and the parched ground shall no longer be a thirsty land. And they shall bring forth their rich treasures unto the children of Ephraim, my servants. And the boundaries of the everlasting hills shall tremble at their presence. And there shall they fall down and be crowned with glory, even in Zion, **by the hands of the servants of the Lord, even the children of Ephraim**. And they shall be filled with songs of everlasting joy. Behold, this is the blessing of the everlasting God upon the tribes of Israel, and **the richer blessing upon the head of Ephraim and his fellows.**"

Only those who remained faithful to the Lord and His doctrine taught in His restored church will be selected to go to Jackson County to build up the center stake of Zion, only those people will get to take part in those blessings. Brothers and Sisters I testify in the name of Jesus Christ that a “passive defense” of the Lord’s true doctrine, or a “lukewarm approach” to defending the Lord and the true points of His doctrine taught in His restored church will get you seats in the stands, you will not, I repeat you WILL NOT be on the field. I pray to God we all gain the desire to be there, I pray to God and commit you all to gain that desire to be there. I pray to God we then do what is required to be there, I pray to God and commit you all, and myself, to do all we need to do to get ourselves there- in the name of Jesus Christ amen.