

called to the work of the Lord, and had braved all these difficulties with him; and he made this remark, that whatever happened to Emma, he would go, if he had to go to hell, to find her and bring her home, that she might share with him the blessings of his exaltation as she had shared with him his sufferings. He rejoiced greatly in the anticipation of these eternal family relations in the future.

Among the many wonderful manifestations to the Prophet Joseph, soon after the dedication of the temple in Kirtland, revelation tells us that he and Oliver Cowdery saw the Lord stand upon the breastwork of the pulpit; that He acknowledged the temple as accepted of Him, and said that from there should go forth the Gospel to the nations of the earth. And let me say, that temple was built as none of us have ever built temples since in these mountains; it was built by everything that everybody could do to get the materials together and put it up. They had nothing of property making until this temple was done. All there was to it was by sacrifice, and not by tithing, in those days; and when it was done the Lord accepted it and blessed them mightily.

Directly after this manifestation that I speak of, Elders Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde, Willard Richards and Joseph Fielding were appointed to England on their first European mission. The blessing and power of God were upon them such as have never been upon men before or since, except it was on President Woodruff when he was over there. He seemed to baptize almost everybody that dared to go and hear him preach in Herefordshire and the regions round about.

Well, after the Savior had shown his good pleasure concerning the house, Joseph says, Doctrine and Covenants, Section 110:

After this vision closed, the heavens were again opened unto us, and Moses appeared before us, and committed unto us the keys of the gathering of Israel from the four parts of the earth, and the leading of the Ten tribes from the land of the north.

After this, Elias appeared, and committed the dispensation of the Gospel of Abraham; saying, that in us, and our seed, all generations after us should be blessed.

After this vision had closed, another great and glorious vision burst upon us, for Elijah the prophet, who was taken to heaven without tasting death, stood before us, and said:

Behold, the time has fully come, which was spoken of by the mouth of Malachi, testifying that he (Elijah) should be sent before the great and dreadful day of the Lord, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, lest the whole earth be smitten with a curse. Therefore the keys of this dispensation are committed into your hands, and by this ye may know that the great and dreadful day of the Lord is near, even at the doors.

Some of these same characters were with Peter, James and John on the mount of transfiguration with the Savior. They had not a temple in that day that they could go into and receive these keys of Moses and Elias. There also they heard the glorious voice from heaven: "This is my beloved Son; hear ye him." These keys were delivered to Joseph in the temple at Kirtland by Moses and Elias and Elijah, in fulfillment of the promises of the Lord through Moses, Deut. 30: 1-4; Malachi 4th chapter 45th verse. "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

We should have consideration of these things. This is how the Priesthood of ancient times was dovetailed in with the Priesthood of modern times, so that it is the same Priesthood, the same power, the same authority committed to men appointed of God to administer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in all the ordinances of His Church. These things came home with emphasis to my mind while I heard President Woodruff yesterday recounting the circumstance when Joseph testified that he had received all the keys that had been bestowed by the Lord upon any man, and that he conferred them all upon the Twelve who were with him in that holy place in Nauvoo. And these were the same blessings and powers which are conferred and which we have with us now to preach the Gospel, build up the Church, gather Israel and establish the righteousness of our God in the earth. Wonderful! Marvelous! The Lord has made Joseph's ministry known and has abundantly testified of it. He baptized for the remission of sins, and when he was blessed to confer the Holy Ghost the heavens bore witness in the eyes of the world. We want to bear these things in mind. We ought, all of us, to keep them in our minds, and especially in the minds of the generation that is growing up. We ought to be reminded from time to time that a man of God, second only to Jesus Christ, has stood upon the earth, clothed with authority from heaven. In the beginning the Father and Son appeared to him. At another time he and Sidney Rigdon were in the spirit, and the Lord revealed to them the three great glories of the future pertaining to the human family. Not only so, but he was told to write them while he was yet in the spirit, and he wrote that vision for our comfort, for our edification, our profit and our warning. And he attained unto such power with the Lord that he told him before he died to ask whatsoever he would and He would answer him. The Lord had now disciplined him for years; He had brought him into straight places; He had brought him into a position where the things required of him were such as made his nature to revolt, and the Lord met him by a holy angel and told him he had to go forward in His work or his life would be taken. This is a sample of how the Lord does. He brings His faithful servants into narrow places, where they have to choose whom they will serve. It is a great and glorious thing to know that we live in a day when such men have dwelt among us, and that we have had their society and been taught by them.

The first time I went to Nauvoo I was full of awe and fever, in the spring of 1840. I called at the Prophet Joseph's house and asked him if I might sleep in his hayloft, being poorly, did not like to lay out of doors, and had no place to go to. He looked at me and said, "Brother Franklin, you shall stay here in the house; I see you are not hearty." I stayed in the house, slept there, and the next morning ate breakfast with him. I rejoiced that I was fit to look upon a Prophet in the last days. We went up to the conference, which was held at the head of a ravine, just south of the Nauvoo Temple, so that persons standing below could look up and see the people around them. At the intermission, Brother Joseph Young called me aside, I sat down on a log, while he and

Albert P. Rockwood ordained me a Seventy. So that those places are attended with hallowed and sacred memories to me. When again I was ill and in the Prophet's company, I asked him, "Brother Joseph, can I be healed of this affliction?" He looked at me and said, "Brother Franklin, if you believe with all your heart, you can." I told him I believed all I knew how to believe and that this was the work of God. I asked him if he could tell me how I could believe any more. He told Brother Brigham Young to administer to me and I should get well. He did so and I was healed. I feel to testify of him, that the power of God was with him. He was a man that associated with the angels here on the earth, and the God of heaven sustained him. No man could have lived and passed through what he did except the powers of heaven attended him and filled him with the understanding of time and eternity.

When Secret Orders came there to be instituted and to carry out their designs the Prophet Joseph enquired of the Lord and learned all about them. He could comprehend everything that they ever knew or thought of in a very short time. He had access to the heavens, and this people have had access through him. We ought to understand that the history of the Prophet Joseph is the history of the Church as long as he lived, and it is the authority by which we abide, and to which we refer on matters that need to be enquired about that are not plain before us. I know this is the work of the Lord. I have known it from the beginning. It was in 1838 I embraced the Gospel, in the month of June; and in October, the same year, the Lord gave me an abiding witness of the Holy Ghost, so that I never have since then doubted the work of the Lord. It was revealed to me on the grand prairie, in Missouri. It was a glorious day to me, I never yet knew how to describe and tell the excellence, the power and the blessings of that knowledge that filled my soul and made the journey pleasant; for I walked about 300 miles from St. Louis to Far West.

I rejoice with you in this great work. I only wish that I could live nearer to the Lord, have more of His Spirit and the power of the Gospel to be with me, to qualify me for every good word and work. I beseech of you, my brethren and sisters, seek after this; for they who have this Spirit, shall come to the knowledge of all things necessary for their salvation and exaltation. The principles that the Prophet Joseph taught are the doctrines that we must abide in, or we shall be overthrown. When the Lord, or the interest of Zion required anything, he did it and let the consequences follow, and he was so highly favored of the Lord with revelations affecting the whole human race, that he was shown their destiny here and hereafter. It was manifest to him that the seed of Cain would not come in remembrance before the Lord for their final redemption, until the seed of Abel the righteous, should all have their opportunity. This one incident opens up a field of information so vast and comprehensive, that it is made evident to what extent the Prophet Joseph's mind was enlightened in regard to the dealings of God with mankind, and his eternal purposes concerning their redemption.

I have noticed only a few of the lead-