

Establish . . . a house of God
(Doctrine and Covenants 88:119).

REVELATION AND THE KIRTLAND TEMPLE

FROM THE PROPHET JOSEPH
SMITH'S OWN ACCOUNT

Kirtland, January 14, 1833. . . .
The Lord commanded us, in
Kirtland, (Ohio,) to build a
house of God, . . . this is the
word of the Lord to us, and . . .
the Lord helping us, we will
obey. . . .

June 1st (1833) I received the following:
"Ye have sinned against me. . . .

"Yea, verily I say unto you, I gave unto
you a commandment that you should
build a house, in the which house I
design to endow those whom I have
chosen with power from on high. . . .

"Verily I say unto you, it is my will that
you should build a house. If you keep my
commandments you shall have power to
build it."

June 5 (1833).—George A. Smith hauled
the first load of stone for the Temple, and
Hyrum Smith and Reynolds Cahoon
commenced digging the trench for the
walls of the Lord's house, and finished the
same with their own hands.

On (July 23, 1833), . . . the corner stones
of the Lord's House were laid in Kirtland,
after the order of the Holy Priesthood.

October 1–15 (1834).—Great exertions
were made to (speed up) the work of the
Lord's house, and notwithstanding it was
commenced almost with nothing, as to
means, yet the way opened as we pro-
ceeded. . . .

Sunday, March 27 (1836).—The congre-
gation began to assemble at the Temple,
at about seven o'clock . . . to witness the
dedication of the Lord's House. . . .

Presidents Rigdon, Cowdery and my-
self seated the congregation as they
came in. . . .

At nine o'clock a. m. President Sidney
Rigdon commenced the services. . . . He
admitted there were many houses . . .
built for the worship of God, but not one
except this . . . that was built by divine
revelation. . . .

I then made a short address. . . .

***(The dedicatory prayer was offered
next—see Doctrine and Covenants 109.)***

The assembly dispersed a little past
four o'clock. . . .

I met the quorums in the evening. . . .

Brother George A. Smith arose and
began to prophesy, when a noise was
heard like the sound of a rushing mighty
wind, which filled the Temple, and all the
congregation simultaneously arose, be-
ing moved upon by an invisible power;
many began to speak in tongues and
prophesy; others saw glorious visions;
and I beheld the Temple was filled with
angels. . . . The people of the neighbor-
hood came running together (hearing an
unusual sound within, and seeing a
bright light like a pillar of fire resting
upon the Temple), and were astonished
at what was taking place. This continued
until the meeting closed at eleven p. m.

***(History of the Church, vol. 1, pages 316,
349–353, 400; vol. 2, pages 167, 410–417, 428.)***



Illustrated by Paul Mann