

# DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS STORIES





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# Doctrine and Covenants Stories

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# Sources

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Some of the information in this book is taken from the nonscriptural sources cited below.

## Key to abbreviations:

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- ECH Smith, Joseph Fielding. *Essentials in Church History*. 1974.
- HC Smith, Joseph. *History of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*. 7 vols. 1932–51.
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- Chapter 5: ECH, chapter 9.
- Chapter 6: ECH, chapter 9.
- Chapter 7: ECH, chapter 10.
- Chapter 9: ECH, chapter 12.
- Chapter 10: ECH, chapter 13.
- Chapter 11: ECH, chapter 13.
- Chapter 12: ECH, chapter 13.
- Chapter 14: ECH, chapter 14.
- Chapter 15: ECH, chapter 14.
- Chapter 16: ECH, chapters 14–15.
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- Chapter 32: ECH, chapters 18, 20.
- Chapter 34: ECH, chapter 19.
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- Chapter 61: ECH, chapters 38–39.
- Chapter 62: ECH, chapters 37, 39.
- Chapter 63: ECH, chapter 39.
- Chapter 64: ECH, chapters 40–42.





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INTRODUCTION

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# Before the Doctrine and Covenants

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**W**e lived with Heavenly Father before we came to earth. We did not have bodies of flesh and bones like we now have. We were spirits. Our Heavenly Father made a plan for us to receive bodies and become more like Him. This is called the plan of salvation. This plan required us to leave Him for a time and come to earth. If we follow the plan, we will return to live with Him.



Jesus lived with us in heaven. He wanted to follow Heavenly Father's plan. Jesus said He would come to earth to make it possible for us to return to heaven.



Satan also lived with us in heaven. He would not follow Heavenly Father's plan, so Heavenly Father made him leave. Satan wants to destroy the plan of salvation.





Jesus made the earth for Heavenly Father's children to live on. Jesus sent prophets to teach the people to be good.



Some people obeyed the prophets. Other people obeyed Satan and became wicked.



The Old Testament tells about people who lived before Jesus was born. Prophets taught these people that Jesus would come to earth to make it possible for them to be cleansed from sin and to overcome death.



The Book of Mormon tells about other people who lived long ago. These people came from Jerusalem to the Americas. Prophets also taught these people about Jesus. He visited them after He was resurrected.



The New Testament tells about Jesus' life on earth. It tells of His birth, His teachings, and His death and resurrection. Jesus taught people His gospel. He taught them to obey Heavenly Father's commandments.



Jesus chose twelve men to be Apostles and gave them the priesthood. He started His Church. Many people loved Jesus. They were righteous and obeyed His teachings.



Satan did not want people to follow Jesus. He tempted people to hate Jesus, and some of them nailed Him to a cross and killed Him.



Three days after Jesus died, He was resurrected. He was alive again! He talked with His Apostles and told them to teach the gospel to all people. Jesus also visited the righteous people in the Americas. Then He went to heaven to be with His Father.



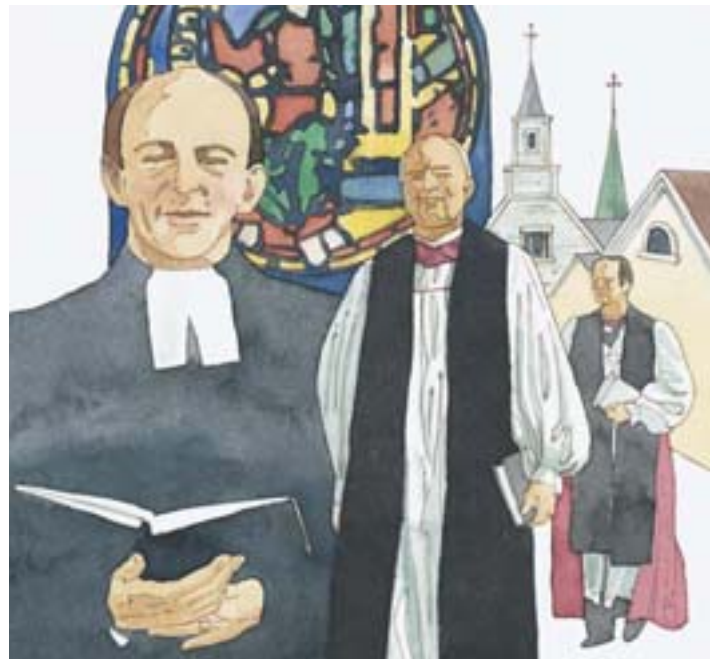
The Apostles were the leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ. They went to many lands and taught people about Jesus. Many people believed in Him and were baptized. The Apostles gave righteous men the priesthood. There were many members of the Church.



Satan wanted to destroy the Church. He tempted people to stop believing in Jesus. The Apostles and many other members of the Church were killed. Soon there were no leaders to guide the Church. Heavenly Father took the priesthood away from the earth.



The church that Jesus had started was gone. People started churches of their own. They changed many of the teachings of Jesus. They also changed some of the commandments.



Hundreds of years went by. There were many churches on earth, but none of them was the true Church of Jesus Christ. Members of these churches believed in Jesus, but the churches did not have the true gospel. They did not have the authority of the priesthood. They did not have prophets or apostles.



Jesus had said He would come to earth again. But first His Church had to be restored. The priesthood also had to be restored. These blessings were restored through the Prophet Joseph Smith.



Heavenly Father has again called prophets and apostles to lead the Church in our day. Jesus gives revelations to the prophets and apostles to tell us what He wants us to know and do.



The Doctrine and Covenants is a book of revelations from Jesus. Most of these were given to the Prophet Joseph Smith. In these revelations, Jesus gives direction to His Church and teaches the doctrines of His gospel.



The book you are reading tells about some of the revelations in the Doctrine and Covenants. It also tells some of the stories about the restoration and early history of the Church of Jesus Christ in the latter days.

CHAPTER 1

# Joseph Smith and His Family

1805–1820



Joseph Smith was born on 23 December 1805. His family lived in the state of Vermont in the United States of America. Joseph Smith's father was also named Joseph. His mother's name was Lucy.

Joseph Smith—History 1:3–4



Joseph had five brothers and three sisters.

Joseph Smith—History 1:4



Joseph's mother and father were good people. They loved their children and worked hard to take care of them.



When Joseph was a little boy, he had a very bad sore on his leg. Doctors tried to make his leg better, but they couldn't.



Hyrum Smith was one of Joseph's older brothers. He loved Joseph and was sad that Joseph's leg hurt so much. He sat by Joseph's bed and tried to help him feel better.



The doctors wanted to cut off Joseph's leg, but his mother would not let them. So the doctors decided to cut out part of the bone. Joseph knew his leg would hurt when the doctors cut it, but he had faith that Heavenly Father would help him.



The doctors asked Joseph to drink some wine so the pain would not be so bad. Joseph would not drink the wine. Joseph asked his mother to go outside because he didn't want her to see the doctors cut into his leg.



Joseph asked his father to hold him while the doctors cut into his leg. They cut out the bad parts of the bone. This hurt very much, but Joseph was brave. After many days, his leg was better.



When Joseph was older, his family moved to the state of New York. They lived in a log house on a farm near Palmyra.


Joseph Smith—History 1:3



Joseph's family was poor. They worked hard to pay for the farm. The boys helped their father plant crops and take care of the animals. The girls worked with their mother.



Joseph was a good boy. He was happy and liked to laugh and have fun.



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CHAPTER 2

# Joseph Smith's First Vision

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1820



Joseph Smith and his family believed in God. They read the Bible together. Joseph's parents taught their children to be good.



There were many churches where Joseph lived. All the people disagreed on which church was right. Joseph didn't know which church to join. He wanted to know which was the true Church of Jesus Christ.

Joseph Smith—History 1:5–10



One day when Joseph was 14 years old, he read in the Bible that we should ask God when we want to know something. Joseph decided to pray and ask God which church to join.

Joseph Smith—History 1:11–13; James 1:5





On a beautiful spring day, Joseph went to the woods near his home. He knelt down and prayed out loud. He had faith that Heavenly Father would answer his prayer.

Joseph Smith—History 1:14–15



Satan did not want Joseph to pray. He tried to stop Joseph and made it dark all around him. Joseph was afraid and could not talk.

Joseph Smith—History 1:15



But Joseph did not stop praying. Satan could not make him stop.

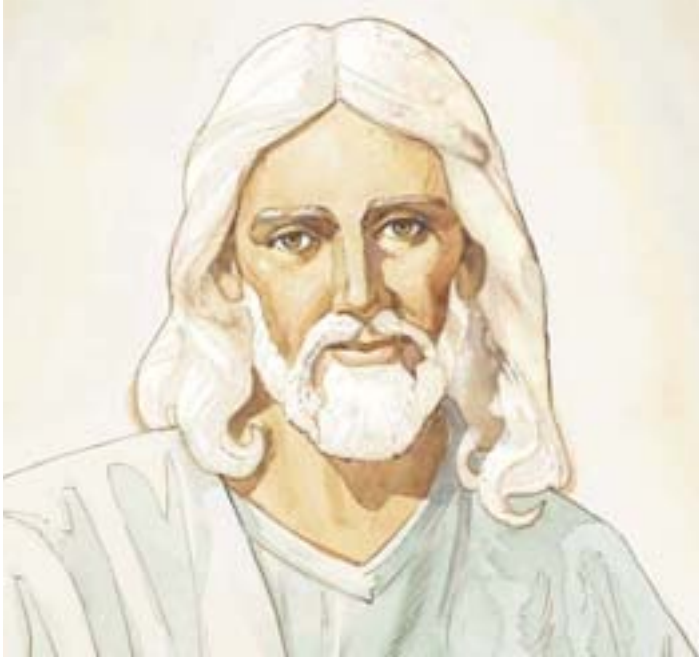
Joseph Smith—History 1:16



Then Joseph had a vision. He saw a beautiful, bright light all around him. He saw Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ

standing above him in the air. Heavenly Father pointed to Jesus and said, "This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!"

Joseph Smith—History 1:16–17



Joseph asked Jesus which church he should join. Jesus told Joseph not to join any of the churches because they were all wrong. None of them was His Church. He told Joseph many other things. Then the vision ended.

Joseph Smith—History 1:18–20



When Joseph went home, his mother asked if he was all right. Joseph said he was. Then he told his mother he had seen a vision. He told her what he learned in his vision.

Joseph Smith—History 1:20



Joseph also told some people in the town about his vision. The people did not believe him. They said he was telling a lie, and they became angry and were mean to him.

Joseph Smith—History 1:21–23



Joseph always told the truth about his vision. He knew he had seen Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ. He knew that none of the churches on earth was true.

Joseph Smith—History 1:24–26



CHAPTER 3

# The Angel Moroni and the Gold Plates

1823–1827



Three years went by after Joseph's first vision. When he was 17 years old, Joseph wondered what God wanted him to do. One night Joseph prayed about this. He had faith that God would tell him what to do.

Joseph Smith—History 1:27–29



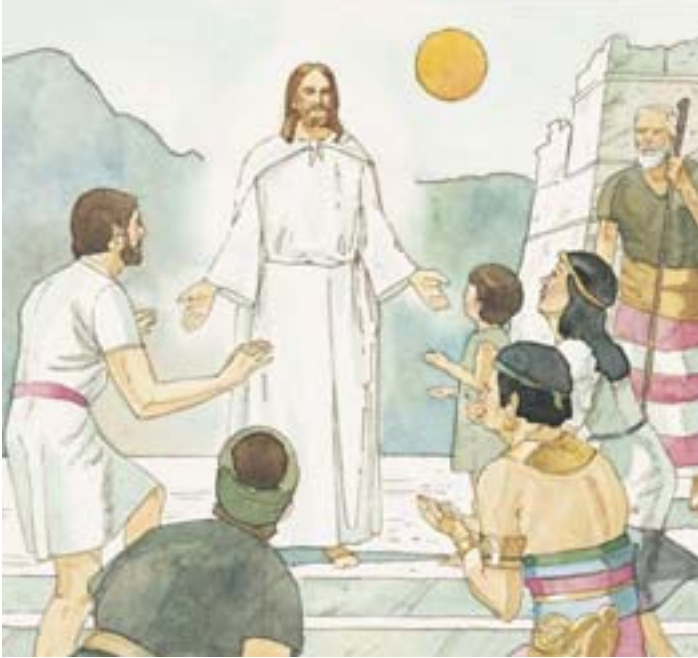
Joseph saw a bright light in his room. An angel was standing in the light. The angel's face was very bright. He wore a beautiful white robe.

Joseph Smith—History 1:30–32



The angel said his name was Moroni. God had sent him to talk to Joseph. Moroni said God had a work for Joseph to do.

Joseph Smith—History 1:33



The angel Moroni told Joseph about a book. The book was about people who had lived in the Americas long ago. Jesus Christ had come to these people and taught them His gospel.

Joseph Smith—History 1:34



Moroni said the book was written on gold pages called plates. It was written in a language that is unknown to us today. God wanted Joseph to translate the book into English.

Joseph Smith—History 1:34–35



The angel Moroni said the gold plates were buried in a hill near Joseph's home. Moroni said that two stones, called the Urim and Thummim, were hidden with the plates. The stones would help Joseph translate the book. While Moroni was talking, Joseph saw a vision that showed him where the plates were buried.

Joseph Smith—History 1:34–35, 42



Moroni also told Joseph about Elijah, who was a great prophet who lived long ago. The story of Elijah is in the Old Testament.

Joseph Smith—History 1:38–39; Doctrine and Covenants 2:1–3



Moroni said that Elijah would come and restore special priesthood power to the earth. This power would make it possible for families to be sealed together in the temple so they could live together forever.

Joseph Smith—History 1:38–39  
Doctrine and Covenants 2:1–3; 110:13–16



The angel Moroni went away, then came back two more times that night. He told Joseph many things each time, then left when it was morning. Joseph got up and went to work with his father on the farm.

Joseph Smith—History 1:43–48



Joseph was too tired to work, so his father sent him home. As he started home, he fell to the ground. Moroni then appeared again and repeated what he had said during the night. When Moroni left, Joseph told his father the things Moroni had taught him. Joseph's father believed him. He knew that God had sent Moroni, and he told Joseph to obey him.

Joseph Smith—History 1:48–50



Joseph went to the hill where the gold plates were buried. He found the plates in a stone box that was underneath a big rock. The Urim and Thummim were also in the box.

Joseph Smith—History 1:50–52



While Joseph was at the hill, the angel Moroni came to him. Moroni would not let Joseph take the gold plates yet. He told Joseph to come to the hill on the same day each year for four years.

Joseph Smith—History 1:53



Joseph obeyed Moroni and went to the Hill Cumorah each year. There Moroni taught Joseph about the Lord's kingdom on earth.

Joseph Smith—History 1:54



Joseph Smith's family was poor and needed money. Joseph wanted to help his family, so he went to the state of Pennsylvania to work. He lived with a man named Mr. Hale.

Joseph Smith—History 1:56–57



Mr. Hale had a daughter named Emma. Joseph and Emma loved each other, and after a time they got married. Then they went back to live with Joseph's family in New York, where Joseph helped his father on the farm.

Joseph Smith—History 1:57–58



Several months after Joseph and Emma were married, Joseph went again to the Hill Cumorah. Four years had passed since Joseph had first seen the gold plates, and this time Moroni let him take them. Moroni told Joseph to take good care of the plates.

Joseph Smith—History 1:59



Many people heard about Joseph receiving the gold plates. They tried to steal the plates from him, but he hid them where they could not be found. God helped Joseph keep the gold plates safe.

Joseph Smith—History 1:60



People in the area caused a lot of trouble for Joseph. They told lies about him and his family.

Joseph Smith—History 1:60–61



The trouble was so bad that Joseph and Emma decided to go back to Pennsylvania, where Joseph hoped he could begin translating the plates in peace. A man named Martin Harris lived near Joseph. He was kind to Joseph and Emma and gave them money to help them move.

Joseph Smith—History 1:61–62





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CHAPTER 4

# Martin Harris and the Lost Pages

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1827–1828



**I**n Pennsylvania, Joseph began to translate the writing on the gold plates. He did not know what the writing meant, but when he used the Urim and Thummim, God helped him understand the words.

Joseph Smith—History 1:62



Martin Harris went to Pennsylvania and helped Joseph translate. As Joseph translated the words from the gold plates, Martin wrote them on paper. Joseph and Martin translated 116 pages of the Book of Mormon.



Martin Harris wanted to take the 116 pages home so his family could see them. Joseph asked the Lord if Martin could take the pages, but the Lord said no. Joseph asked again, but the Lord said no again.



Martin still wanted to take the pages home. He pleaded with Joseph to ask the Lord once more. This time the Lord said Martin could take the pages if he agreed to show them only to his wife and certain other members of his family.



Martin promised to obey the Lord. He took the pages home and showed them to his family. But then he broke his promise and showed the pages to some other people.



Later Martin went to get the pages. He looked everywhere but could not find them. The pages were lost.



After a few weeks, when Martin Harris had not returned with the pages, Joseph became worried. He went to New York to find Martin, who told him the pages had been lost. Joseph and Martin both felt very bad.



Joseph returned to Pennsylvania, where he prayed for forgiveness. Moroni appeared and took the gold plates.



In a revelation, the Lord told Joseph that he would not be allowed to translate for a time because he had not obeyed. The Lord also comforted Joseph, saying His work would go forward and that Joseph was still chosen to do the work if he repented.

Doctrine and Covenants 3



Jesus told Joseph that Satan had influenced some wicked men to take the 116 pages. These men were going to change the words so other people would not believe the

Book of Mormon. Jesus said Satan and the wicked men could not stop God's work.

Doctrine and Covenants 10, section heading  
 Doctrine and Covenants 10:8-29, 31-33, 43



Joseph repented. Soon Moroni returned the gold plates, and the Lord forgave Joseph and restored the gift to translate. Jesus told Joseph not to worry about the lost pages because the same stories were written in another

part of the gold plates. Jesus said Joseph should translate the other part of the plates. Jesus also said many people would read the book and learn about His gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 10:3, 30, 38–43, 52, 62–63



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CHAPTER 5

# Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery

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February–April 1829



Joseph and Emma Smith lived on a little farm near Harmony, Pennsylvania. Joseph's father came to visit them. They were happy to see him. Joseph's father was a good man.



Jesus gave Joseph a revelation for his father. The revelation told how people could help Jesus. They should love Jesus. They should work hard to teach the gospel. They should love and help other people.

Doctrine and Covenants 4



People who want to help Jesus should also pray and have faith. Jesus said people who help Him will be blessed.

Doctrine and Covenants 4:5–7



Joseph's father went home and tried to do the things Jesus had told him to do. He shared the gospel with many of his family members.



Joseph had to work on his farm. He also needed to translate the gold plates. It was too much work for him to do alone, so he prayed and asked Heavenly Father for help.



Heavenly Father answered Joseph's prayer. He sent a man named Oliver Cowdery to Joseph. Oliver wanted to know about the gold plates. Joseph told him about the angel Moroni, the plates, and the Book of Mormon.



Oliver believed Joseph and said he would help translate the gold plates. As Joseph read the words out loud, Oliver wrote them on paper. Joseph and Oliver worked hard.



Jesus taught Joseph and Oliver many things. He said they should seek wisdom and eternal life, not riches. He also said they should learn about God and help people learn the gospel. They should be faithful and do good things. If they did, they could live with Heavenly Father forever.

Doctrine and Covenants 6:7-9, 11, 13



Jesus said Oliver should always be Joseph's friend and help him in difficult times. Jesus also said Oliver could learn to translate like Joseph. The Holy Ghost would help Oliver translate if Oliver had enough faith.

Doctrine and Covenants 6:18, 25; 8:1-2



Oliver tried to translate. He thought it would be easy, but he could not do it.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:1, 5, 7



Jesus said Oliver had not asked for God's help in the right way. Jesus told Joseph Smith how Oliver and all people can get help from God.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:7



When people need help, they should think carefully about what to do. They should decide what they think is the right thing to do.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:8



Then they should ask God if it is right. If it is right, they will feel good in their hearts. They will know it is right.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:8



If it is wrong, they will not feel good in their hearts.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:9



Oliver did not try to translate the Book of Mormon again. Instead, he wrote down the words as Joseph translated them. Jesus said Oliver would be blessed for helping Joseph.

Doctrine and Covenants 9:14





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CHAPTER 6

# Joseph and Oliver Are Given the Priesthood

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May 1829



Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were translating the Book of Mormon. They read about baptism and wanted to know more about it.

Joseph Smith—History 1:68



Joseph and Oliver decided to ask God. They had faith that He would help them learn the truth. On 15 May 1829, they went into the woods and prayed.

Joseph Smith—History 1:68



A heavenly messenger came to Joseph and Oliver. It was John the Baptist, who had baptized Jesus long ago. A bright light was all around him.

Joseph Smith—History 1:68, 72



John the Baptist had come to give Joseph and Oliver the Aaronic Priesthood. The priesthood is the power of God.

The Aaronic Priesthood includes the authority to baptize people.

Doctrine and Covenants 13; Joseph Smith—History 1:68–69



John the Baptist told Joseph and Oliver to baptize each other. Joseph baptized Oliver, and then Oliver baptized Joseph. They went down under the water when they were baptized.

Joseph Smith—History 1:70–71



Long ago, John the Baptist had baptized Jesus the same way. Jesus had gone down under the water when He was baptized.

Matthew 3:16



Joseph and Oliver were filled with the Holy Ghost after they were baptized. The Holy Ghost told them the true Church of Jesus Christ would soon be on the earth again.

Joseph Smith—History 1:73



Joseph and Oliver told their good friends they had been baptized. They also told them about the priesthood. But Joseph and Oliver did not tell other people right away. They knew that some people would not believe them and would make trouble for them.

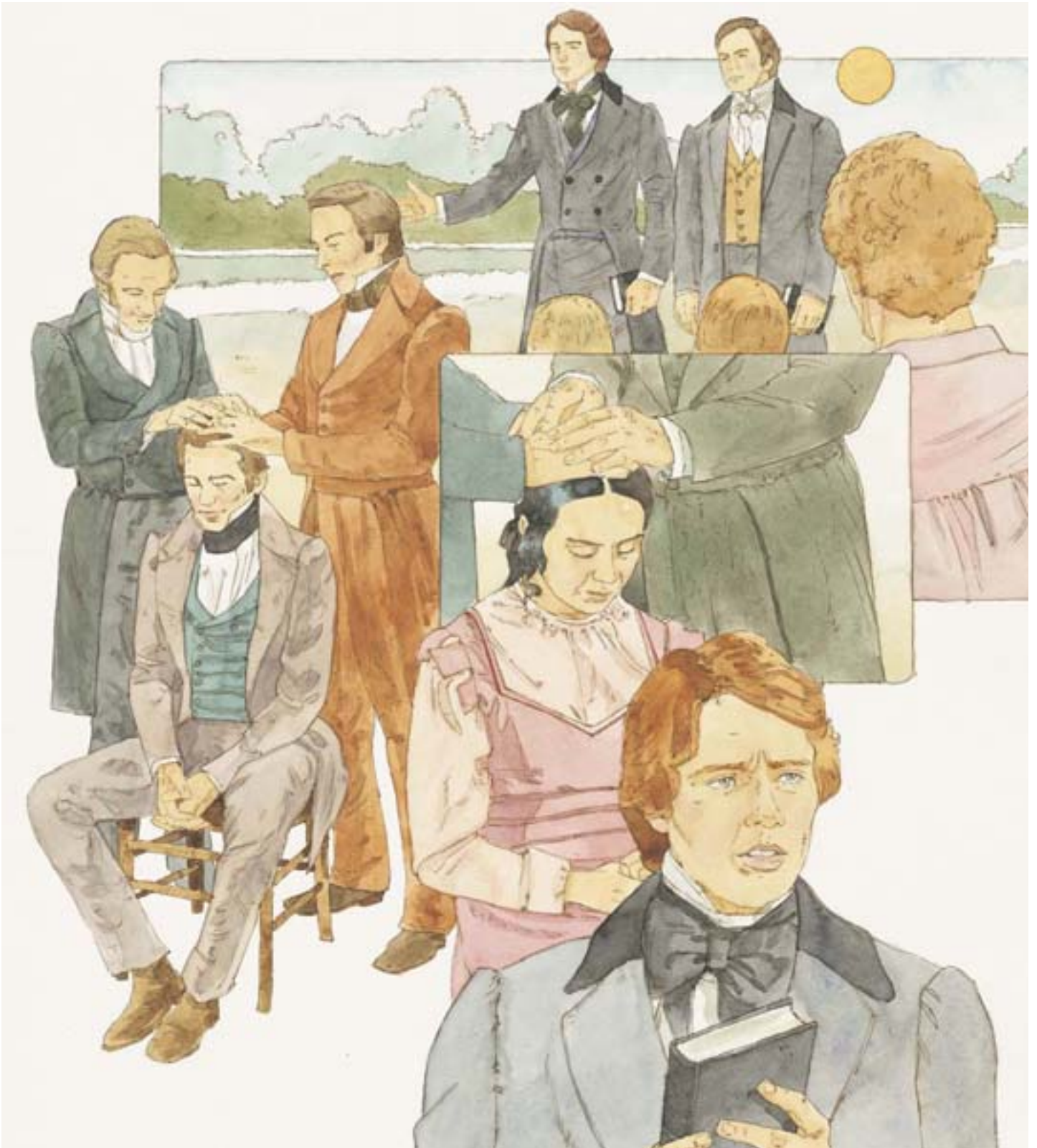
Joseph Smith—History 1:74–75



Later, three other heavenly messengers came. They were Peter, James, and John, who were three of Jesus' original Apostles. Peter, James, and John gave Joseph Smith and

Oliver Cowdery the Melchizedek Priesthood. This is also called the "greater" priesthood.

Doctrine and Covenants 27:12; 84:19



Once the priesthood was restored, righteous men could be given authority to help do God's work on earth. Men who have the Melchizedek Priesthood can be

Church leaders. They can give blessings to people. They can also give people the gift of the Holy Ghost. The restoration of the priesthood is a great blessing.



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CHAPTER 7

# Witnesses See the Gold Plates

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1829–1830



Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery finished translating the Book of Mormon. Jesus wanted people to read the book. He also wanted them to know that Joseph had told the truth about the gold plates.

Doctrine and Covenants 17:4–5



Jesus chose three other men to see the gold plates and be witnesses that they were real. These men were Martin Harris, Oliver Cowdery, and David Whitmer.



Joseph took the three witnesses into the woods, where they prayed. An angel came and showed them the gold plates. Jesus told the three witnesses to tell people what they had seen.

Doctrine and Covenants 17:3, 5  
“The Testimony of Three Witnesses”  
(see the introductory pages of the Book of Mormon)



Joseph Smith was very happy. The three witnesses would tell people about the gold plates, and more people would believe that Joseph had told the truth.



Jesus told Joseph to show the plates to eight more witnesses. The eight men held the gold plates in their hands and saw the writing on the plates.

*“The Testimony of Eight Witnesses”*  
(see the introductory pages of the Book of Mormon)



All the witnesses wrote about the gold plates. They said they had seen the plates, and they testified that the plates were real. The words of the witnesses are in the Book of Mormon.

*“The Testimony of Three Witnesses”* and *“The Testimony of Eight Witnesses”* (see the introductory pages of the Book of Mormon)



After Joseph Smith had translated the plates and the witnesses had seen them, Joseph did not need them any longer. The angel Moroni appeared, and Joseph gave the gold plates back to him.



After Joseph finished translating the Book of Mormon, he took it to a printer. Joseph did not have money to pay the printer. Martin Harris had enough money, and in a revelation he was asked to share it to pay the printer.

Doctrine and Covenants 19:26, 35



Satan did not want the Book of Mormon to be printed. He did not want people to read it. Wicked men tried to stop the printer.



One man went to the printing shop on Sundays and stole some pages of the Book of Mormon. He printed the pages in a newspaper until other men made him stop stealing them.



The people who tried to stop the printing did not succeed because those who are wicked cannot stop Jesus' work. After many months, the printing of the Book of Mormon was completed.





CHAPTER 8

# Getting Ready for the Church of Jesus Christ

April 1830



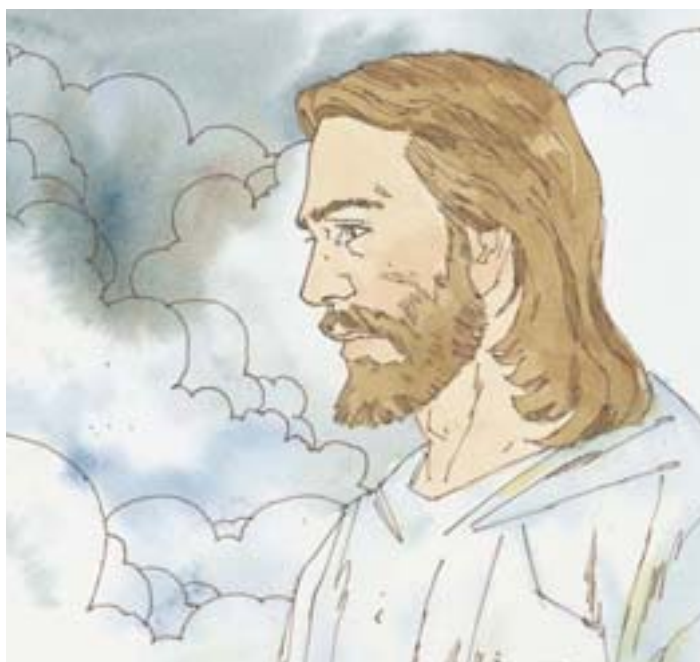
It was almost time for the Church of Jesus Christ to be on earth again. Jesus gave Joseph Smith a revelation so the people would be ready for His Church. Jesus revealed more about His gospel and about other things the people needed to know before His Church was organized.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:1–4



Jesus said the Book of Mormon teaches His gospel and testifies of God and His work. Jesus promised blessings to those who receive the book in faith—and punishment to those who reject it.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:8–16



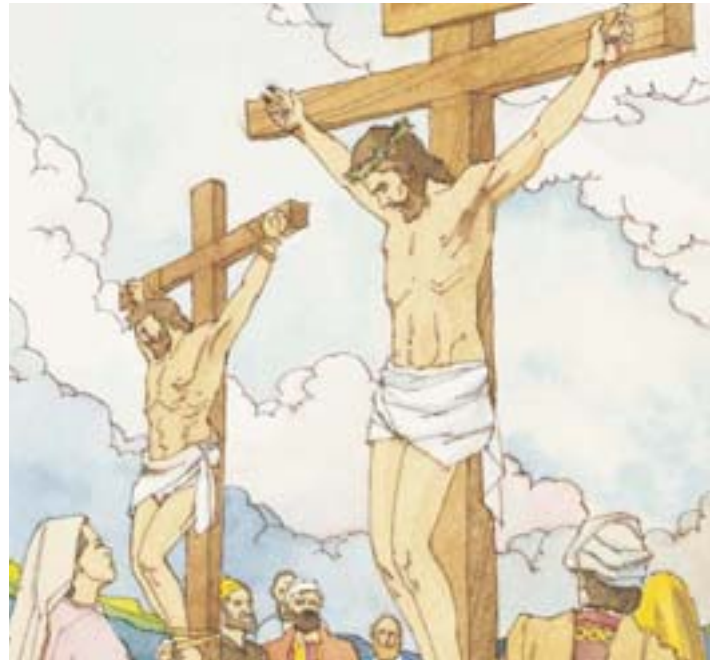
Jesus told about His life on earth. Heavenly Father sent Him here to be our Savior. Satan tempted Him, but Jesus would not listen to him.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:20–22



Jesus felt great sorrow for the bad things people do. Toward the end of his life, He suffered and bled for all people. People will not suffer like He did if they repent.

Doctrine and Covenants 19:16-18



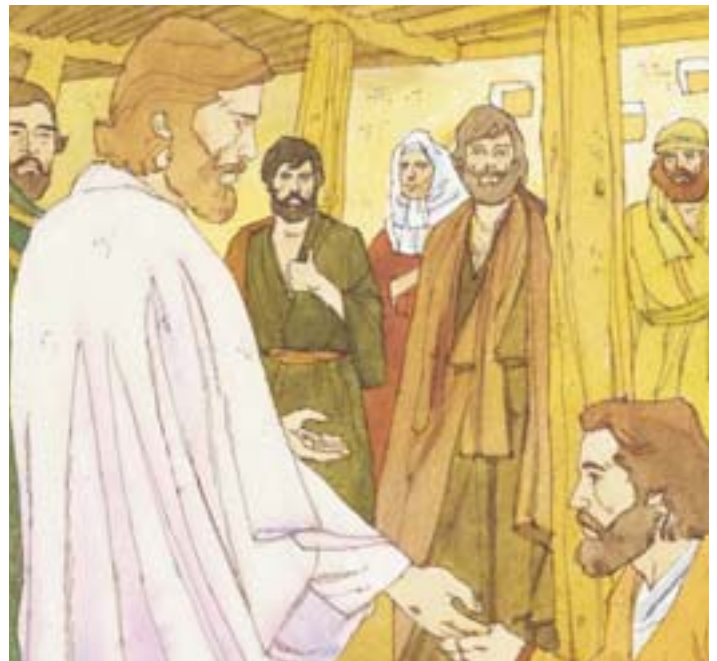
Wicked people put Jesus on a cross and killed Him.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:23



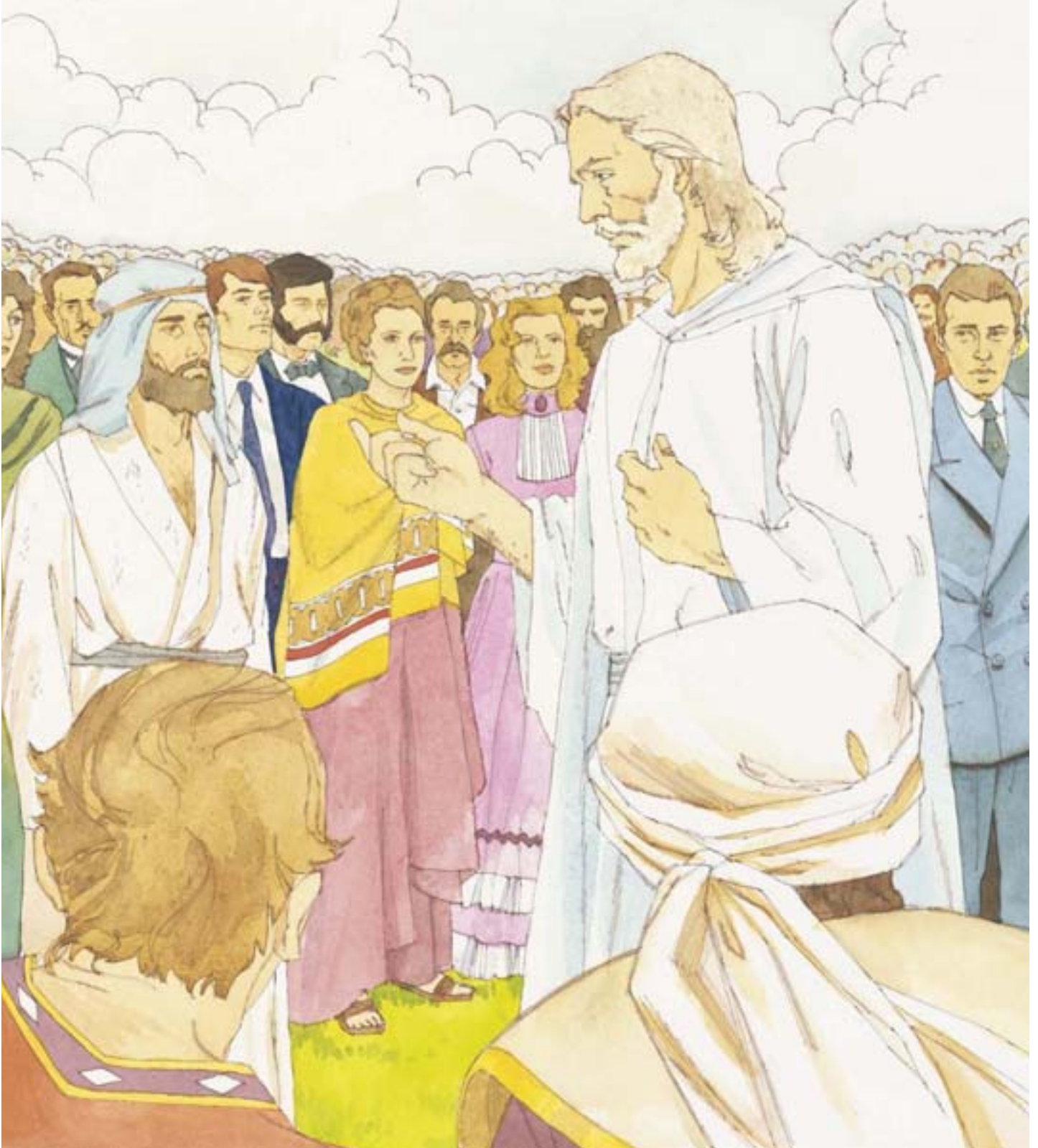
Jesus' friends put His body in a tomb.

Matthew 27:57-61



After three days, Jesus was resurrected. He was alive again!

Doctrine and Covenants 20:23



Because Jesus was resurrected, all people will be resurrected. Because He suffered and died for the sins of all people, we can be forgiven if we repent. We will return

to live with Heavenly Father if we have faith, repent, are baptized, and do our best to keep the commandments.

Doctrine and Covenants 19:17; 20:25



Jesus also taught the people about baptism. He said they must be baptized to become members of His Church. Those who want to be baptized must repent. They must love and obey Jesus. They must also be at least eight years old.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:37, 71; 68:27



Jesus taught the right way to baptize. He said a priest in the Aaronic Priesthood or a man who has the Melchizedek Priesthood may baptize a person. The man takes the person into the water and says a special prayer.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:72-73



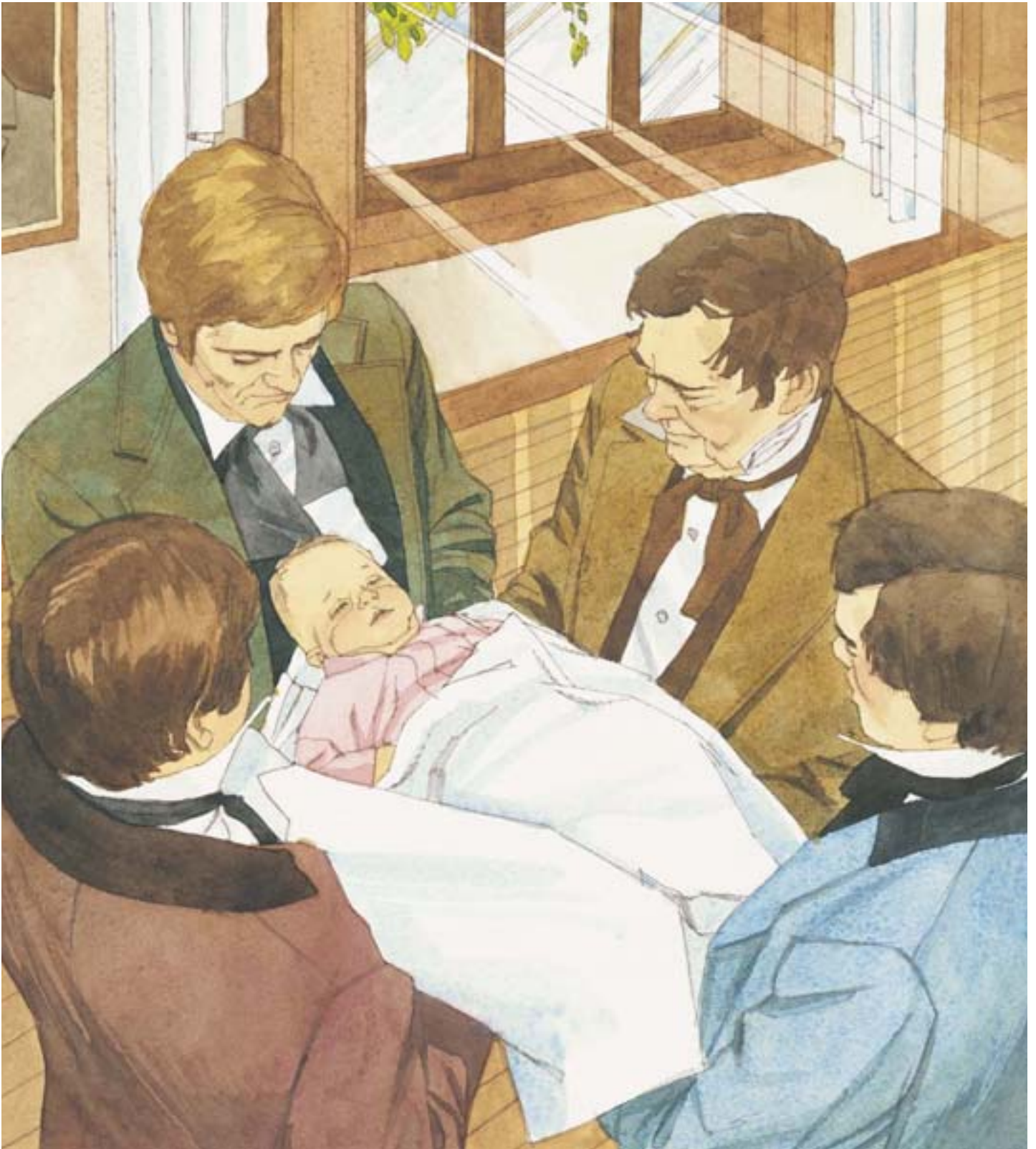
The man who is baptizing puts the person down under the water. Then he brings the person out of the water.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:74



When people are baptized, they promise to obey Jesus. They also promise to say and do good things.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:69



Jesus told about blessing babies. Men who have the Melchizedek Priesthood can bless babies. The men hold

the baby in their arms, and one man gives the baby a name and a blessing.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:70



Jesus told about the sacrament. He said we should take the sacrament often. But if we do something bad, we should not take the sacrament until we have repented.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:75



We take the sacrament to remember Jesus. The bread helps us think of His body. We remember that He died for us on the cross.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:77



The water helps us think of the blood of Jesus. We remember that he suffered and bled for us in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:79



We make covenants when we take the sacrament. A covenant is a promise. We promise that we will try to be like Jesus. We promise that we will always remember Him. We also promise to obey His commandments. If we keep our covenants, we are promised that His Spirit will be with us.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:77, 79



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CHAPTER 9

# Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ

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6 April 1830



Joseph Smith was living in the town of Fayette in the state of New York. Jesus told Joseph it was time for His true Church to be on earth again. He told Joseph to organize the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:1–2; 21:3



On 6 April 1830, Joseph held a meeting to organize the Church. Oliver Cowdery, Hyrum Smith, Samuel Smith, David Whitmer, and Peter Whitmer came to help him.

They had all been baptized. Other people also came to the meeting.



The men prayed to Heavenly Father. Joseph ordained Oliver an elder in the Church. Then Oliver ordained Joseph.



Joseph and Oliver blessed the sacrament. They gave it to the men.



Joseph and Oliver put their hands on each man's head to confirm him a member of the Church of Jesus Christ and give him the gift of the Holy Ghost.





Joseph and Oliver ordained some of the other men to the priesthood. These men were very happy. They said they loved God and told how He had blessed them.



Jesus gave a revelation to Joseph Smith at the meeting. Jesus said Joseph was a prophet. A true prophet speaks for Jesus. When a prophet speaks for Jesus, members of the Church should listen to him and obey him.

Doctrine and Covenants 21:1, 4-5



After the meeting, many people were baptized, including Joseph Smith's mother and father. What a wonderful day! The Church of Jesus Christ was on the earth again.



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CHAPTER 10

# The First Miracle in the Church

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April 1830



The next meeting of the Church was on Sunday, 11 April 1830. Besides members of the Church, many other people attended the meeting.



Oliver Cowdery taught the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some of the people believed Oliver and wanted to join the Church. They were baptized after the meeting.



Satan did not want people to join the Church, so he tried to make some of them feel bad. One of these people was a man named Newel Knight.



Joseph asked Newel to pray at a meeting, and Newel said he would.



But Satan did not want Newel to pray. When Newel went to the meeting, he said he was afraid to pray out loud.

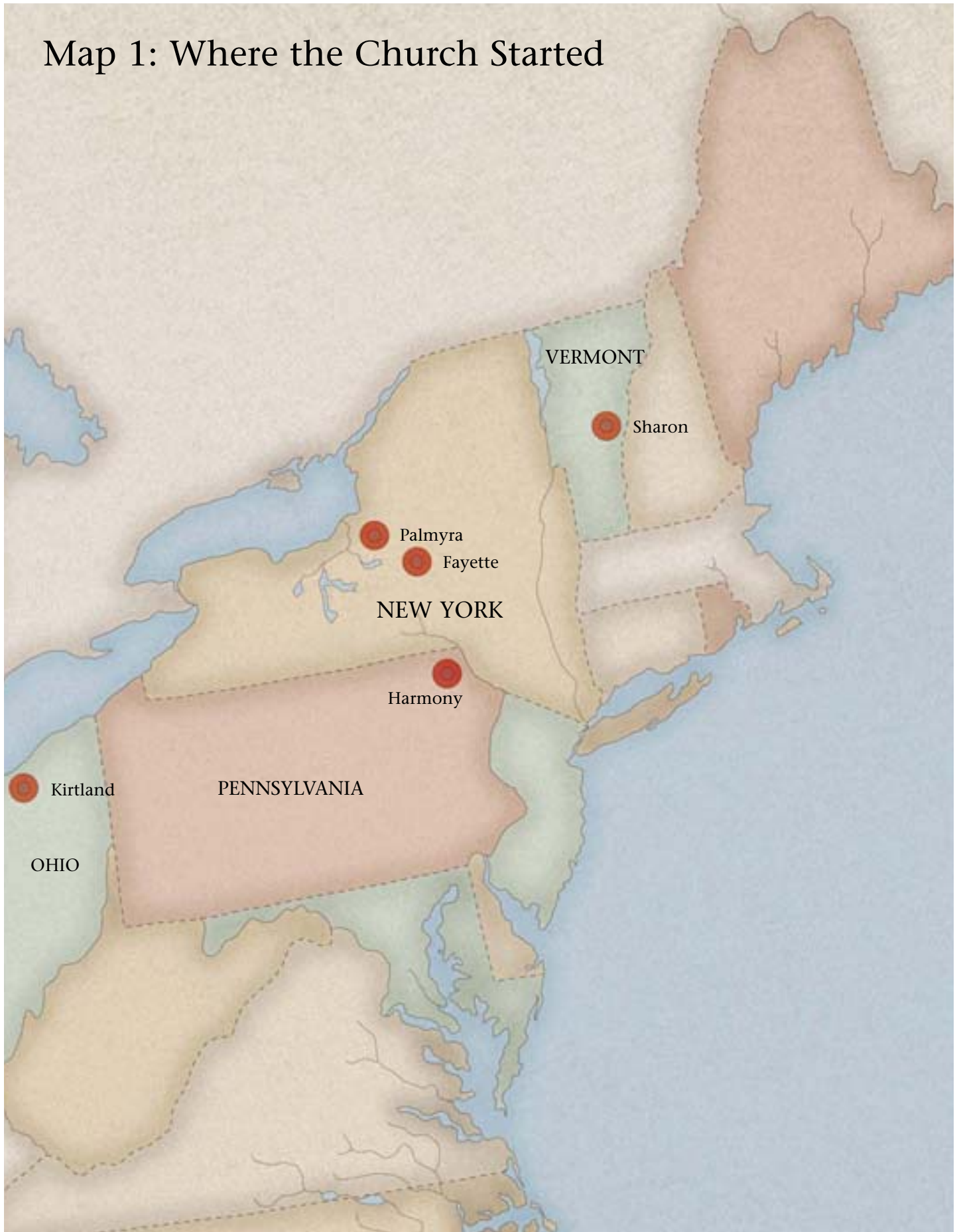


The next morning, Newel Knight went into the woods so he could pray alone. Newel tried to pray, but again Satan did not want him to, and he could not talk. He became sick and afraid, and he went home.



Newel's wife was worried about him and asked Joseph Smith to help. Joseph used the priesthood to bless Newel and cast Satan out. After the blessing, Newel felt better. Later he was baptized.

# Map 1: Where the Church Started





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CHAPTER 11

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# More People Join the Church

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April–June 1830



After a few weeks, there were 27 members of the Church. They did not all live in the same town. Joseph Smith asked them to come to a conference, which is a special meeting for all the Saints. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ are called Saints.



The Saints had the sacrament at the conference. Some men were ordained to the priesthood. The Holy Ghost blessed the Saints, and they were very happy.



Some other people who attended the conference were not members of the Church. They learned about the gospel and wanted to join the Church, so they were baptized. After the conference, Joseph Smith went to another town. Some people there also wanted to be baptized. Joseph said they could be baptized in a nearby stream.



The people built a small dam in the stream to make the water deep enough to perform baptisms. In the night, some people destroyed the dam.



The dam was rebuilt, and Oliver Cowdery began to baptize people. Soon a mob came. A mob is a group of mean people. They said bad things and tried to hurt the Saints, but the Lord kept the people safe.



The mob continued trying to make trouble for the Church. They told lies about Joseph Smith and had him arrested. At a trial, they found people to give false testimony against the Prophet. But many other people told the truth about Joseph, proving the words of the enemies to be false.



Joseph was released, but almost immediately he was arrested again by people from a nearby county. While he was imprisoned, people spit on him and would not give him food. Another trial was held, and Joseph was again found innocent and was released.



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CHAPTER 12

# Samuel Smith's Mission

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June 1830



Samuel Smith was Joseph Smith's younger brother. Jesus wanted Samuel to go on a mission. Samuel Smith was the first missionary for the Church.



Samuel went to teach people the gospel and tell them about the Book of Mormon. On the first day he traveled 25 miles, but people treated him unkindly and did not want to listen.



When night came, Samuel stopped at an inn. He asked the owner if he would like to buy a Book of Mormon. The owner asked where Samuel got the book. Samuel said his brother had translated it from gold plates.



The owner was angry. He said Samuel was lying and told him to get out of the inn.



Samuel Smith was discouraged. That night he slept under an apple tree.



The next morning Samuel went to see John Greene, who was a leader of another church. Mr. Greene was not interested in the Book of Mormon, but he agreed to ask the people in his church if they would like to buy a copy. When Samuel returned three weeks later, there had been no sales. However, Mr. Greene's wife said she had read the book.



Samuel Smith's mission was hard. When he went home, he did not think he had been successful.





Samuel did not know at the time that his work would eventually lead to many people joining the Church, including Mr. and Mrs. Greene.



Samuel had also sold a Book of Mormon to a man named Phineas Young. Phineas read the book and gave it to his brother, whose name was Brigham Young.



Brigham Young read the Book of Mormon and believed it was true. Phineas and Brigham Young told some friends about the Book of Mormon, and they also read it and believed it was true. Later, Phineas and Brigham Young and their friends joined the Church.



Within a few years, Brigham Young was called to be an Apostle. Many years after that he became the President of the Church. He and others who were converted through the efforts of Samuel Smith became great leaders in the Church.



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CHAPTER 13

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# Joseph and Emma

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July 1830



Joseph and Emma Smith lived on a small farm in Pennsylvania. They loved each other and worked hard to help each other.



Joseph and Emma endured many hardships. They had a baby boy, but he died. They were very sad.



Joseph worried about his family. They were poor, and he wanted to take care of them. He needed to plant crops so his family would have food.



Joseph also worried about the Church. Some people continued to make trouble for the Saints, and some Church leaders had to hide from them.



Sometimes Joseph had to leave home to help the Saints. Joseph was sorry to leave, and Emma worried when he went away.



Joseph prayed to know what he should do. Jesus told him not to be afraid of the people who were trying to hurt him. Jesus said Joseph should be patient in his afflictions. He said He would always help Joseph.

Doctrine and Covenants 24:7, 16–17



Jesus said Joseph should plant his crops and then go help the Saints in other areas. Jesus also told him not to worry about food, clothes, or money. The Saints would give him what he needed.

Doctrine and Covenants 24:3, 18



Jesus gave Joseph Smith a revelation for Emma. Jesus said Emma Smith was a special lady. He had chosen her to do important work.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:3



Jesus said Emma should comfort Joseph when he had troubles. She should help him be happy and not worry.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:5



Jesus said Emma should teach the Saints and help them learn the scriptures. He said the Holy Ghost would help her know what to teach.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:7-8



Jesus also said Emma should use her time to study. She should learn and write many things.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:8



Jesus asked Emma to choose songs for the Saints to sing. The songs would be printed in a songbook.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:11



Heavenly Father loves to hear righteous people sing. Their songs are a prayer to Him, and these prayers will be answered with a blessing.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:12



Jesus told Emma to be humble and to love her husband. He told her to be happy because of the blessings that would come to Joseph.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:14



Jesus told Emma to be happy and rejoice. He also told her to keep her covenants. If she did, she would receive great blessings and be able to return to live with Him in heaven.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:13, 15



Jesus said that the things he told Emma Smith are for all people.

Doctrine and Covenants 25:16



CHAPTER 14

# The Prophet and Revelations for the Church

September 1830



**J**oseph and Emma Smith moved back to New York. A man named Hiram Page lived there. He was a member of the Church. He had a stone that he said helped him receive revelations for the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 28, section heading



Many Church members believed Hiram Page, including Oliver Cowdery. Some people thought Hiram Page was a prophet.

Doctrine and Covenants 28, section heading



Oliver asked Joseph about Hiram Page. Joseph prayed, and Jesus gave him a revelation. Jesus said that only one man could receive revelations for the entire Church. That man was the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Doctrine and Covenants 28:2



Jesus said that Oliver and others could receive revelations for themselves, but not for the entire Church. Oliver believed Joseph. He knew that Hiram Page's revelations were wrong.

Doctrine and Covenants 28:4-5, 8



Jesus told Oliver to talk to Hiram Page. Oliver told him that the revelations he received through the stone were not from God.

Doctrine and Covenants 28:11



Oliver said that Satan had tricked Hiram Page. Hiram listened to Oliver and repented.

Doctrine and Covenants 28:11



Today only the President of the Church receives revelations for the whole Church. He is a prophet of God. Members of the Church should obey the prophet.





CHAPTER 15

# A Mission to the Lamanites

September 1830



Jesus wanted more people to hear about the gospel. He wanted some of the Saints to go on missions. He called Oliver Cowdery to go on a mission to the American Indians. These Indians were also called Lamanites because some of them were descended from the Lamanites in the Book of Mormon.

Doctrine and Covenants 28:8



Jesus wanted the Lamanites to read the Book of Mormon. He had promised many prophets that the Lamanites would have the Book of Mormon. Now it was time to keep that promise.

Doctrine and Covenants 3:19–20



The Book of Mormon tells the Lamanites about their ancestors who lived hundreds of years ago. It tells them about important promises Jesus made to them. It helps them believe in Jesus. It teaches them to repent and be baptized.

Doctrine and Covenants 3:19–20



Other men wanted to go with Oliver Cowdery to preach the gospel to the Lamanites. The Lord said three of the men could go.



First the missionaries went to some tribes in New York. The missionaries gave the people the Book of Mormon, but only a few of them could read.



Then the missionaries went to preach to some Lamanites in Ohio. These people were happy to hear about the Book of Mormon and learn about their ancestors.



The missionaries left Ohio and went to a town named Independence in Jackson County, Missouri.



There were many Lamanites in Missouri. The missionaries preached the gospel to them and gave them the Book of Mormon. They were very happy and thanked the missionaries for the book.



Other people in Missouri did not believe the restored gospel or the Book of Mormon. They told the missionaries to stay away from the Indians.



The people said soldiers would chase the missionaries away if they did not leave. Saddened, the missionaries went to teach other people in Missouri.



One of the missionaries was named Parley P. Pratt. He went to Ohio to tell Joseph Smith what they had done. Parley said their mission had been good and they had taught the gospel to many people.



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CHAPTER 16

# Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon Learn about Zion

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1830



While Oliver Cowdery and his friends were on their mission, they stopped near Kirtland, Ohio. They met a man named Sidney Rigdon, who was a leader in another church.



The missionaries gave Sidney Rigdon a copy of the Book of Mormon and taught him the gospel. Sidney read the Book of Mormon and prayed about it. Heavenly Father told him the gospel was true, and Sidney was baptized.



Sidney Rigdon told the members of his church to listen to the missionaries, and many of them did. Soon 1,000 people were baptized in Kirtland.



Sidney Rigdon wanted to meet Joseph Smith, so he went to New York. After Sidney arrived, Joseph Smith received a revelation for him. In the revelation, Jesus said Sidney Rigdon would do great things. He would teach the gospel to many people. He would baptize them and give them the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 35:4-6



Jesus also told Joseph and Sidney that some parts of the Bible had been changed long ago. Other important parts had been taken out. Jesus said He would reveal to Joseph Smith what parts of the Bible should be corrected. Sidney was to write down the corrections as Joseph spoke them.

Doctrine and Covenants 35:20



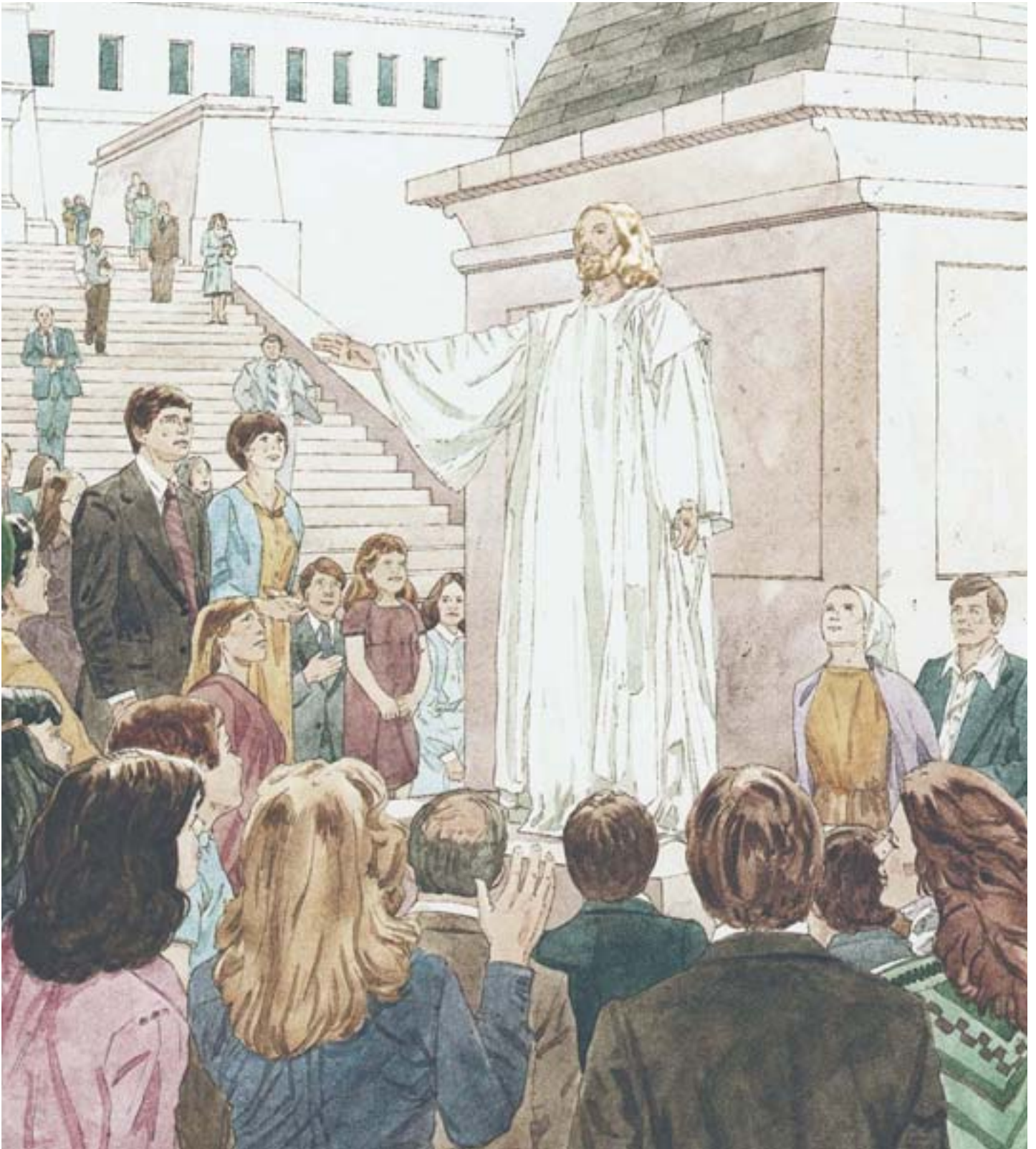
One story that is incomplete in the Bible is about Enoch, who was a great prophet. His people were so righteous that the Lord called them Zion. Enoch's people also built a city named Zion. In Zion, people loved each other and took care of each other. No one was poor or unhappy.

Moses 7:18-19



Everyone in Zion obeyed Heavenly Father's commandments. The people were so righteous that the Lord dwelled with them. Then He took the people of Zion to heaven to live with Him.

Moses 7:16, 69



Jesus told Joseph Smith that the Saints should build another city named Zion. The city would be beautiful. No bad people would live there. Those who lived in

the city would love each other and be happy. Jesus said He would come and live with them.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:64–71; see also Moses 7:62–64



CHAPTER 17

# The First Bishops of the Church

February and December 1831



Some people in New York were mean to the Saints and wanted them to leave. Jesus told Joseph Smith to leave New York and go to Kirtland, Ohio.



Joseph and Emma, Sidney Rigdon, and Edward Partridge went to Kirtland. Joseph and Emma lived with a member of the Church named Newel K. Whitney.



There were about 1,000 members of the Church in Kirtland. They were trying to obey God, but they did not understand all of the gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 41, section heading



Joseph prayed and received a revelation. Jesus told him that the Saints in Kirtland needed a bishop. The bishop should use his time to teach and help the Saints. The first bishop in the Church was to be Edward Partridge.

Doctrine and Covenants 41:9



As more people joined the Church, more bishops were needed. Newel K. Whitney was called to be the second bishop of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 72:7-8



Jesus told Joseph that the bishop should take care of a storehouse. The Saints should give food, clothing, and other offerings to the bishop to place in the storehouse. Then the bishop would use these things to help any Saints who were poor or needy.

Doctrine and Covenants 72:10-12



Jesus also said that the bishop should receive the money that the Saints give to the Church. The bishop would use this money to pay the bills of the Church and to help the poor.

Doctrine and Covenants 72:10-12





The bishop should love the Saints and try to help them. He should meet with the men who have the priesthood and talk about what they are doing to help the Saints.

Doctrine and Covenants 72:5, 11



A bishop leads the Saints in each ward. A branch president is like a bishop. A branch president leads the Saints in each branch.



Today there are thousands of bishops in the Church.



CHAPTER 18

# The Law of the Church

9 February 1831



In Kirtland, Ohio, the Lord gave a very important revelation to Joseph Smith. It is called the law of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 42, section heading



The Lord said the Saints should teach the gospel to all people. Men who go on missions should be ordained to the priesthood by leaders of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 42, section heading  
Doctrine and Covenants 42:7, 11



Two missionaries should work together. They should teach from the Bible and the Book of Mormon. They should pray to have the Holy Ghost with them. The Holy Ghost would tell them what to teach.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:6, 12, 14



Missionaries should baptize people who believe the gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:7



The Lord said members of the Church should obey the Ten Commandments. They should not kill. They should not tell lies. They should not say bad things about other people. They should not do any other bad things.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:18–27



The Saints should share what they have with other people. Sharing with others is like sharing with Jesus.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:30–38



Jesus gave the Saints other commandments. No Saint should think he or she is better than another person. The Saints should be clean. They should work hard.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:40–42



The Saints should take care of sick members. Men who have the priesthood should bless the sick. Those who

have faith can be healed. They will not die if it is not time for them to die.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:43–44, 48



Righteous Saints should not be afraid to die. Death is wonderful for righteous people.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:46



Jesus said He would reveal many things to righteous members. These revelations would bring joy. The Lord told the Saints to obey the law of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 42:61, 66



CHAPTER 19

# The Second Coming of Jesus Christ



Some people in Kirtland, Ohio, didn't want to learn the gospel. Some even told lies about the Saints to try to stop others from learning about the gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 45, section heading



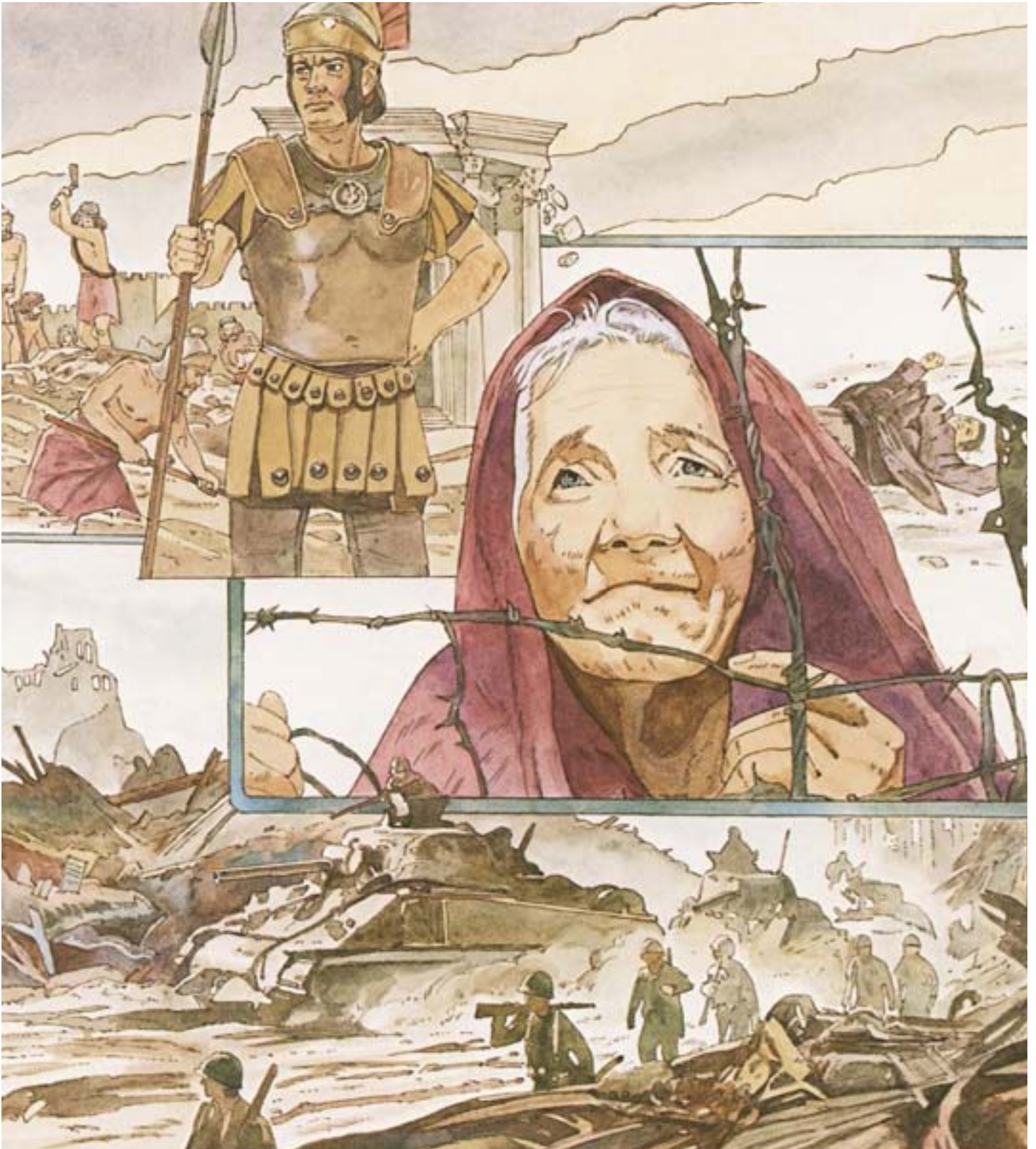
Jesus told Joseph Smith that He would come to earth again soon. Before He comes, everyone on earth must hear the gospel. The Saints should be good missionaries and work hard to share the gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 43:20  
Doctrine and Covenants 45



When Jesus lived on earth, He told His Apostles what would happen before He came again.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:16



Jesus told His Apostles that the temple in Jerusalem would be destroyed. The Jewish people would be scattered to many nations, and many of them would be killed. There would be many wars. People wouldn't love each

other, and they would turn their hearts from God. There would be terrible sickness, disease, and earthquakes. The sun would be dark, the moon would be like blood, and stars would fall.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:17-27, 29, 31, 33, 42



One important event in preparation for Jesus' return to the earth is the restoration of His Church. Jesus said the restored gospel would be like a light in the darkness.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:28



Many things that Jesus told about have already happened. Other things are beginning to happen, and others will happen in the future.



When these things happen, righteous people will know Jesus is coming soon. They will want Him to come. Many Jews will go back to Jerusalem. They will hear the gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:38-39



Righteous Saints will build the new city of Zion, where they will be safe. They will not fight with each other. They will be happy and sing songs of joy. People who are not righteous will not be able to go to Zion.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:65-71



Jesus will come to earth in a bright cloud. Righteous people will see Him. All the righteous people who have

died will be resurrected. They will meet Jesus in the cloud and come to earth with Him.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:44-46





Jesus will come to Jerusalem. He will stand on a mountain there, and it will split in half. The heavens and earth will shake. Wicked people will be destroyed.

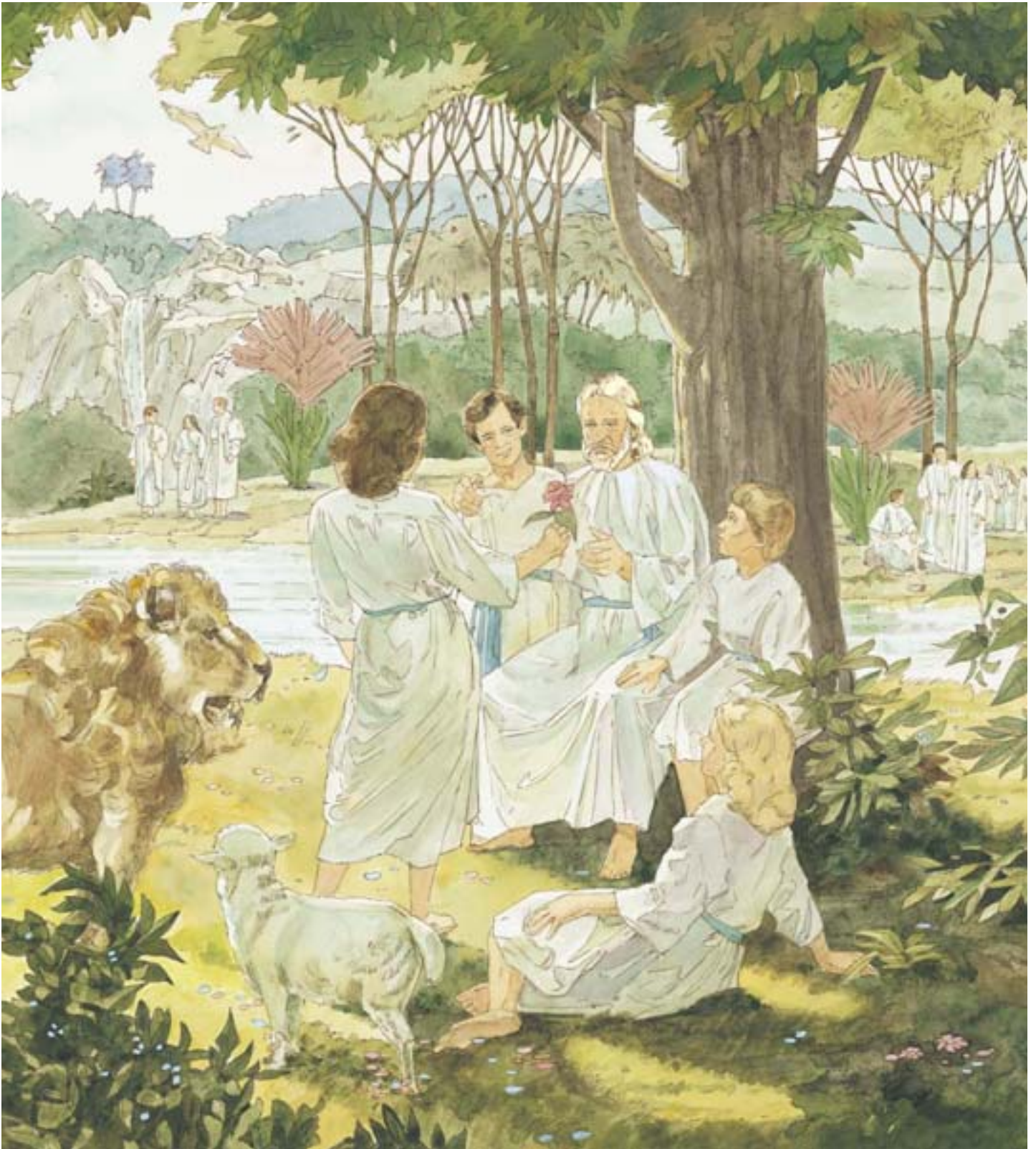
Doctrine and Covenants 45:48–50



People in Jerusalem will see Jesus and ask, “What are those wounds in your hands and feet?” He will say: “I am Jesus who was crucified. I am the Son of God.”

Then the people will cry because of their sins and feel sad because Jesus had been persecuted.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:51–53



Righteous people will be very happy to see Jesus. The whole earth will belong to them. Satan will not be able to tempt them. Their children will grow up

without sin. Jesus will live with them for 1,000 years and will be their King.

Doctrine and Covenants 45:55-59



Jesus told Joseph Smith to send missionaries to tell everyone to repent and prepare for the Second Coming.

Jesus said the Saints should also prepare. They should pray, fast, and teach each other the commandments.

Doctrine and Covenants 43:20; 88:76–77



Jesus promised the Saints that if they would be close to Him, He would be close to them. He said they should pray, and He promised that God would answer them.

Doctrine and Covenants 88:63



The Saints should do everything they can to help Jesus. When people help Jesus, they become like Him. Then they will be ready for His Second Coming.

Moroni 7:48



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CHAPTER 20

# Gifts of the Spirit

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8 March 1831



**J**oseph Smith received many revelations that taught about the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is a Spirit who helps Heavenly Father and Jesus. The Holy Ghost does not have a body of flesh and bones.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:22



Through the power of the Holy Ghost, God gives special gifts to members of the Church. These are called gifts of the Spirit, or spiritual gifts. Each Saint has at least one

spiritual gift. Church members should learn about their gifts and use them to help each other. Jesus told Joseph Smith what some of these gifts are.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:9–12



Some Saints are given the gift of knowing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. They know He died for us. Other Saints are given the gift to recognize and believe the true testimonies of other people about Jesus.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:13–14



Some Saints are given the gift to be leaders.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:15



Some Saints are given the gift to know the difference between righteous and wicked spirits. Righteous spirits are sent by God and make us feel good. Wicked spirits are sent by Satan and bring a bad feeling.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:16, 23; 50:23–24



Some Saints are given the gift of wisdom. This gift helps them make good choices and properly use the knowledge Heavenly Father gives them. Some Saints are given the gift of knowledge. Those who have this gift are to teach others and help them make wise choices.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:17–18



Some Saints are given the gift of faith to be healed. Others are given the gift to heal sick people. The Holy

Ghost gives some Saints the gift to do miracles. Miracles show the power of God.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:19–21



Some Saints are given the gift to speak languages they do not know.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:24



Some Saints are given the gift of prophecy. This gift helps them know and understand things that have happened in the past, things that are happening now, and things that will happen in the future.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:22



Some Saints are given many gifts. All Saints should use their gifts to serve and bless others.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:29



The bishop can know what gifts each Saint has. He knows who will be good teachers. He knows which Saints love God and obey the commandments.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:27



Righteous Saints should work and pray to be given the gifts they need. All of these gifts come from God.

Doctrine and Covenants 46:9, 28, 32



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CHAPTER 21

# A Revelation to Settle in Missouri

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May–June 1831



Joseph Smith had moved from New York to Kirtland, Ohio. He asked the Saints who were still living in New York to move to Ohio, and they obeyed him.



Jesus told Joseph that the Saints in Ohio should share their land with the Saints from New York. Leman Copley

had a lot of land, and he promised to share it. Some of the Saints from New York moved onto the land.

Doctrine and Covenants 48:2





But Lemah Copley didn't keep his promise. He decided he didn't want the Saints from New York to have his land. He made them move, and they had nowhere else to live.

Doctrine and Covenants 54, section heading



Newel Knight was the leader of this group of Saints. He didn't know what to do, so he went to ask Joseph Smith for help.

Doctrine and Covenants 54, section heading



Joseph prayed, and the Lord told him that this group of Saints should go to Missouri.

Doctrine and Covenants 54:7-9



Before these Saints left Kirtland, a conference was held. It lasted three days. The Lord gave some important revelations to Joseph Smith.



The Lord told Joseph to ordain the first high priests in the Church. High priests have the Melchizedek Priesthood. Many leaders of the Church were ordained high priests.

Doctrine and Covenants 52, section heading



The Lord said some of the men should go on missions to Missouri. They were to preach the gospel on the way. When the conference was over, the missionaries left for Missouri.

Doctrine and Covenants 52:9-10



The Lord told Joseph that the next conference of the Church would be held in Missouri. He told Joseph and his friends to go there. Jesus promised to show them where to build the city of Zion.

Doctrine and Covenants 52:1-5 (see also 42:62)



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CHAPTER 22

# Saints Begin to Settle in Missouri

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July–August 1831



The Prophet Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, Edward Partridge, and others went to Missouri. They were very happy to go because they wanted to learn more about building the city of Zion.



They went part of the way in a boat. When they got to Missouri, Joseph wanted to walk. He knew the land of Missouri was sacred, and he wanted to see it.



Joseph and his friends walked about 300 miles across Missouri to Jackson County.



A few days after Joseph Smith and his friends arrived in Jackson County, the Saints from New York arrived there.



The missionaries from Kirtland also arrived in Jackson County.



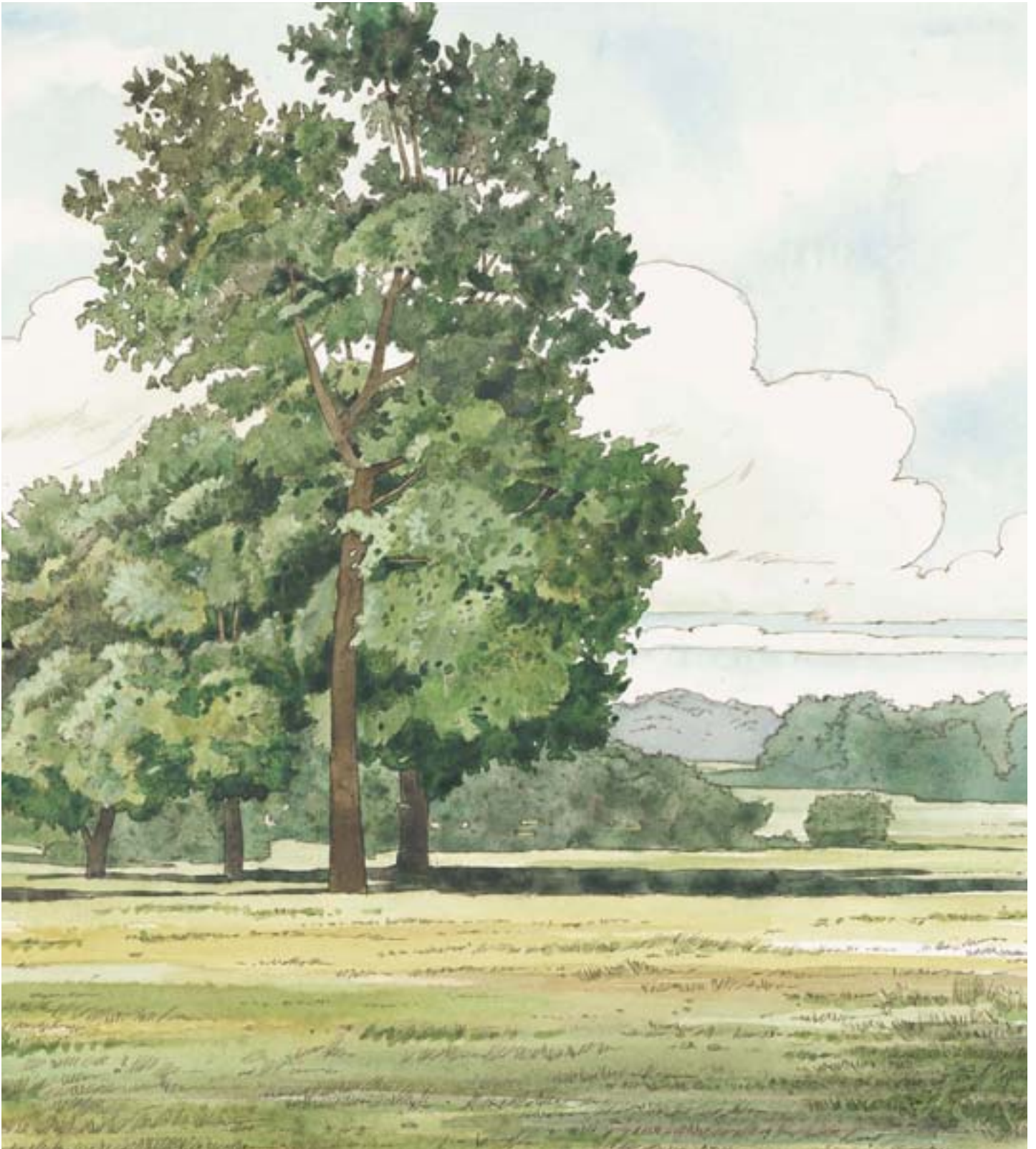
Joseph Smith and Bishop Edward Partridge told the people what to do. Some were to buy land in Missouri. Oliver Cowdery and William W. Phelps were to start schools. They were also to choose and write books for children to read in school.

Doctrine and Covenants 55:4; 57:4-5



Joseph wanted to know where the city of Zion should be built. He prayed to Heavenly Father, and his prayer was answered.

Doctrine and Covenants 57, section heading



The Lord revealed that the city of Zion would be located in Jackson County, Missouri. He also revealed that a temple would be built in Independence, a town in

Jackson County (see the map on page 89). The Lord also promised that those who keep His commandments and endure trials faithfully will be crowned with glory.

Doctrine and Covenants 57:1-3; 58:2-4



The Lord told the Saints in Missouri that they should obey the laws of the land. They should do many good things without being told. The Lord also promised that when people repent, He will no longer remember their sins.

Doctrine and Covenants 58:21, 27–29, 42–43



The Lord said that Sidney Rigdon should dedicate the land. Sidney Rigdon asked the Saints if they received the land with thankful hearts and if they promised to keep the commandments. “We do,” they answered. Then Sidney Rigdon prayed and dedicated the land.

Doctrine and Covenants 58:57



The next day, Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, Sidney Rigdon, and other leaders held a meeting at a special place in Independence. They read the scriptures and prayed. Then Joseph Smith dedicated the place for the building of a temple.



The next day all the Saints in Missouri went to a conference. They were filled with the Holy Ghost, and they rejoiced. Joseph told them that God would bless them if they were faithful.



A few days later, Jesus gave Joseph a revelation about the Sabbath day, or Sunday. Jesus said Sunday is His holy day. On Sunday we should do things to help us remember Him. We should rest from our work. We should go to

church and take the sacrament. We should repent of our sins. We should fast and pray. We should be thankful for all our blessings.

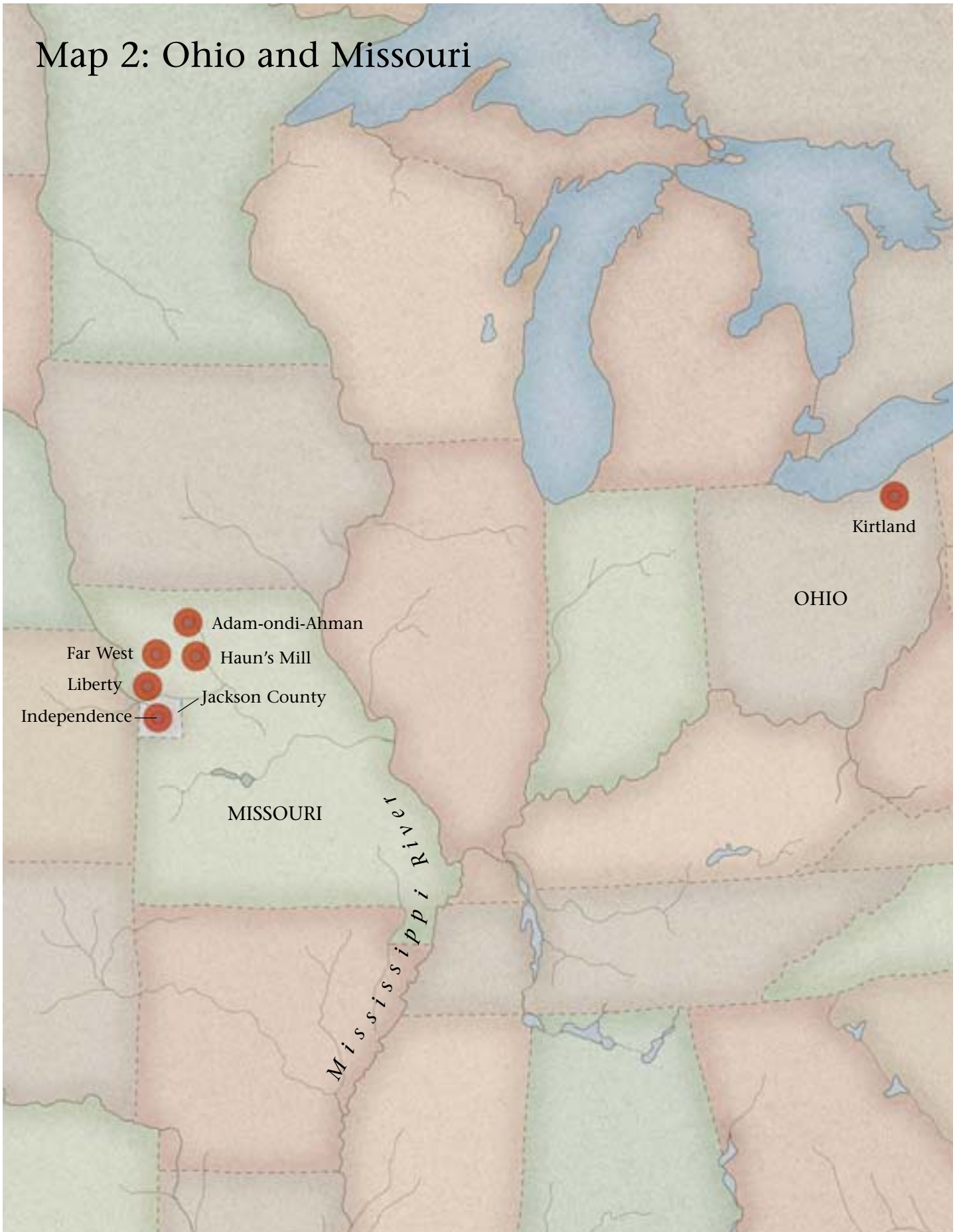
Doctrine and Covenants 59:9–15



Saints who do these things will have all the good things they need. They will be happy, they will have peace, and they will receive eternal life.

Doctrine and Covenants 59:15–19, 23

# Map 2: Ohio and Missouri







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CHAPTER 23

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# The Doctrine and Covenants

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August–November 1831



Joseph Smith and some of the Saints left Missouri and went back to Kirtland, Ohio. Soon a special conference was held. The purpose was to talk about printing the revelations the Lord had given to Joseph Smith.

Doctrine and Covenants 67, section heading



The revelations Joseph had received had been written down, but most Church members did not have copies of them. In the conference, the Saints decided to publish the revelations in a book. The book would be called the Book of Commandments. Later it was called the Doctrine and Covenants.



Jesus gave Joseph Smith two more revelations for the book. One was for the beginning, and the other was for the end. These revelations help us understand the importance of the book and of the restored gospel.

Doctrine and Covenants 67:4  
Doctrine and Covenants 67 and 133, section headings



The Doctrine and Covenants tells everyone that the true Church of Jesus Christ is on the earth again.



The Doctrine and Covenants tells about the priesthood. It also tells men how to use this power.



The Doctrine and Covenants tells about the Book of Mormon. By reading the Book of Mormon, everyone can know about the gospel of Jesus Christ.



The Doctrine and Covenants teaches the Saints to share. Those who share will be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 70:14



The Doctrine and Covenants teaches the commandments of God. Saints who obey these commandments can live with Heavenly Father and Jesus forever.



Jesus said all members of the Church should read the Doctrine and Covenants.

Doctrine and Covenants 1:37



After the conference, Oliver Cowdery took copies of the revelations to Missouri. He gave them to William Phelps, a Church member who had a printing press. Oliver asked Brother Phelps to print 3,000 books. Before the printing was finished, however, wicked men stopped the press and destroyed most of the pages.



The Doctrine and Covenants was finally published in 1835. The Saints thanked Heavenly Father for the revelations in the Doctrine and Covenants.



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CHAPTER 24

# Parents Should Teach Their Children

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November 1831



Some elders in the Church wanted to know of the Lord's will for them, so they went to the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Doctrine and Covenants 68, section heading



Joseph prayed for guidance. The Lord's answer included important principles about how to be good parents.



Parents should teach their children about Jesus and help them develop faith in Him.

Doctrine and Covenants 68:25



Parents should teach their children how to repent.

Doctrine and Covenants 68:25



Jesus said children should be baptized when they are eight years old. Parents are to teach their children the gospel before they are baptized.

Doctrine and Covenants 68:25, 27



Parents should teach their children about the gift of the Holy Ghost. Parents should also teach their children how to pray and how to listen to the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 68:25, 28



Parents should teach their children to know and obey God's commandments and to be good members of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 68:28



Parents and children who follow Jesus' teachings can have lasting happiness as a family.



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CHAPTER 25

# Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon Go on a Mission

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December 1831–January 1832



Some people were printing lies about the Church in a newspaper. Jesus told Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon to go on a mission to other towns and tell people the truth about the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 71:1–4



Joseph and Sidney obeyed Jesus. They left their homes and went to many towns. They talked in church meetings and taught people in their homes.



Joseph and Sidney told people about God's commandments. They testified of Jesus Christ and told the people to repent. When Joseph and Sidney finished their missions, they went home to their families.



CHAPTER 26

# The Three Kingdoms of Heaven

16 February 1832



One day Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon were reading the New Testament. The New Testament said that good people will go to heaven after they are resurrected. Joseph wondered if all people go to the same place in heaven.

Doctrine and Covenants 76, section heading



While Joseph and Sidney were thinking about this, Heavenly Father gave them a wonderful vision. In this vision they saw heaven. They saw Heavenly Father and Jesus with light all around Them. Then they saw angels worshipping Heavenly Father and Jesus.

Doctrine and Covenants 76, section heading  
Doctrine and Covenants 76:19–21



When Joseph and Sidney wrote about this vision, they testified that Jesus lives. They had seen Him! And they had heard a voice saying that He is the Son of God. That voice also told them that Jesus had come to earth to make it possible for all people to return to live with Heavenly Father again.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:22–24, 40–42





In the next part of the vision, Joseph and Sidney saw where people go after they are resurrected. There are three places, or kingdoms, for people to go in heaven.

Righteous Saints go to the celestial kingdom of heaven after they are resurrected. The celestial kingdom is where Heavenly Father and Jesus are.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:50-70



Those in the celestial kingdom believed in Jesus Christ during their time on earth. They were baptized and received the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:51-52



Those in the celestial kingdom had many trials while they were on earth, but they overcame them through faith in Jesus Christ. They tried hard to obey God's commandments, and they repented when they did not obey.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:52-53



Righteous Saints will become like Heavenly Father and Jesus. All things will be theirs. They will live with Heavenly Father and Jesus forever.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:58-60, 62



Next Joseph and Sidney saw the terrestrial kingdom of heaven.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:71



People in the terrestrial kingdom were good people on earth, but they were deceived by bad people. They obeyed some of the commandments but were not valiant in their testimonies of Jesus.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:75, 79



The terrestrial kingdom also includes people who did not believe the gospel when they heard it on earth and then did believe it when they heard it after they died.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:73-74



People in the terrestrial kingdom will see Jesus. But they cannot live with Heavenly Father and Jesus.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:77



Next Joseph and Sidney saw the telestial kingdom of heaven. People who go to the telestial kingdom were not righteous on earth.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:81, 103



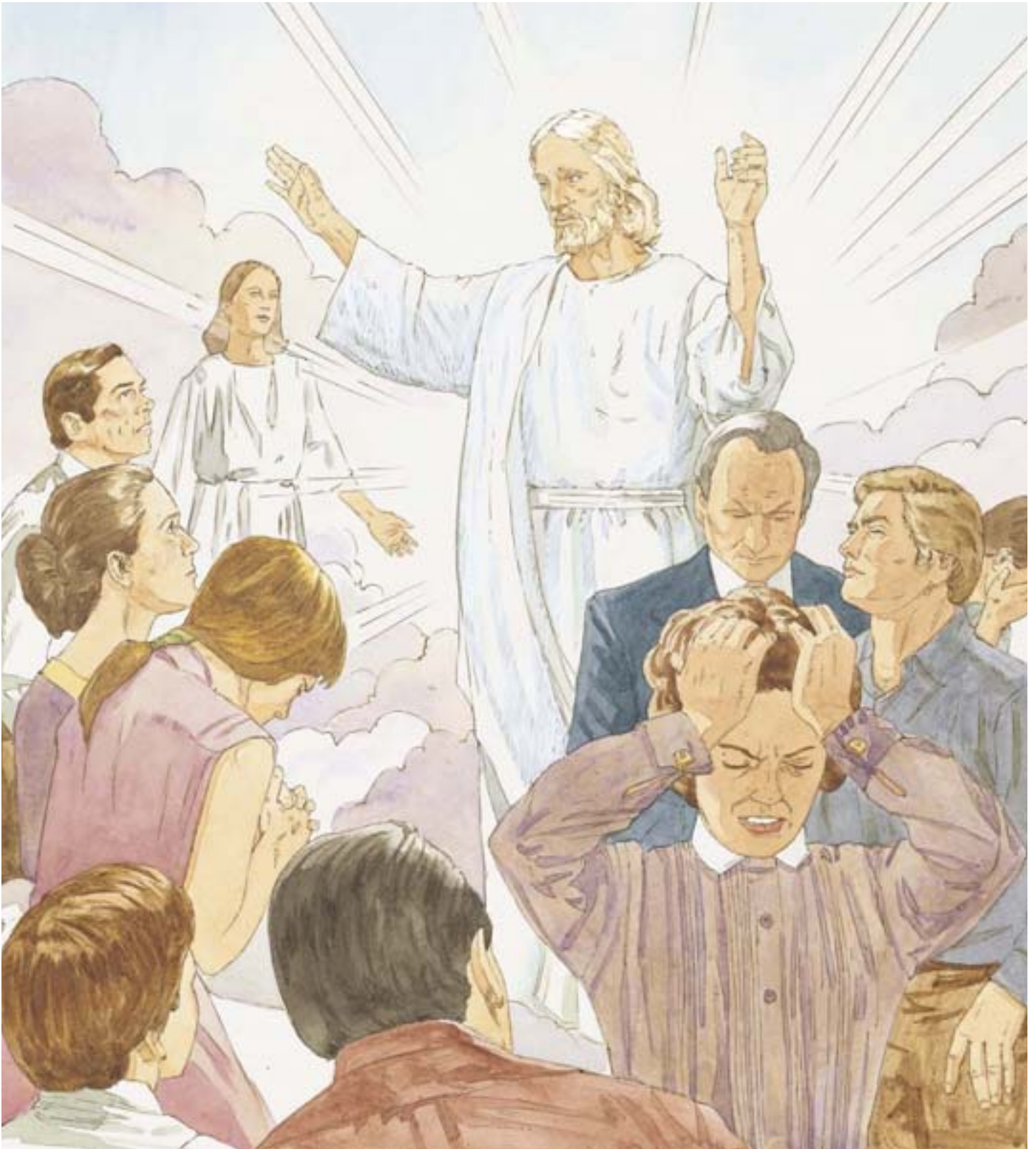
These people did not believe in Jesus or His gospel. They did not believe the prophets and did not obey God's commandments.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:81-82, 101, 103



People in the telestial kingdom will not see Jesus or Heavenly Father and cannot live with Them. However, angels will visit these people, and the Holy Ghost will teach them.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:86, 88, 112



People who are going to the celestial and terrestrial kingdoms will be resurrected when Jesus comes to earth

again. People who are going to the telestial kingdom will not be resurrected until 1,000 years after Jesus comes again.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:63, 85, 102



In this vision, Joseph and Sidney also saw where the people who are most wicked will go. They will be with Satan. They cannot be with Heavenly Father, Jesus, or the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:35–37



The people who will be with Satan learned about Jesus and His gospel while they were on earth. The Holy Ghost testified to them about Jesus Christ. They knew that He lived and that He died for us.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:35



But then these people did very bad things. They denied the truth and defied God's power. They denied the Holy Ghost. They said they did not believe in Jesus anymore. These people will suffer forever.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:31–35



Joseph and Sidney saw other things in their vision, but Jesus told them not to write down everything they saw. Through the power of the Holy Ghost, righteous Saints can see and know these things for themselves. Joseph and Sidney thanked God for this wonderful vision.

Doctrine and Covenants 76:113–19



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CHAPTER 27

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# The Prophet Continues His Work Despite Persecution

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March 1832



Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon continued to work on making inspired corrections to the Bible. Jesus revealed to Joseph Smith the corrections that should be made, and Sidney Rigdon wrote them down (see chapter 16).



Joseph Smith didn't understand some parts of the Bible. He prayed for understanding, and the Lord answered. Many of the revelations in the Doctrine and Covenants came as answers to questions the Prophet asked the Lord while translating the Bible (see, for example, Doctrine and Covenants 76, 77, and 113).



Jesus was happy with Joseph's work. Joseph was a great prophet.



During this time, Joseph and Emma Smith had twin babies who lived only a few hours. Joseph and Emma's friends also had twin babies. The mother of these twins died, and their father allowed Joseph and Emma to adopt them.



One night a mob of angry men went to Joseph's home. They broke open the door and went inside. Joseph was holding one of the little babies, who was very sick.



The men grabbed Joseph and dragged him outside in the cold night. The baby was left alone, and five days later he died.





The men choked Joseph and tried to pour poison in his mouth. The bottle broke one of his teeth, and the poison burned him.



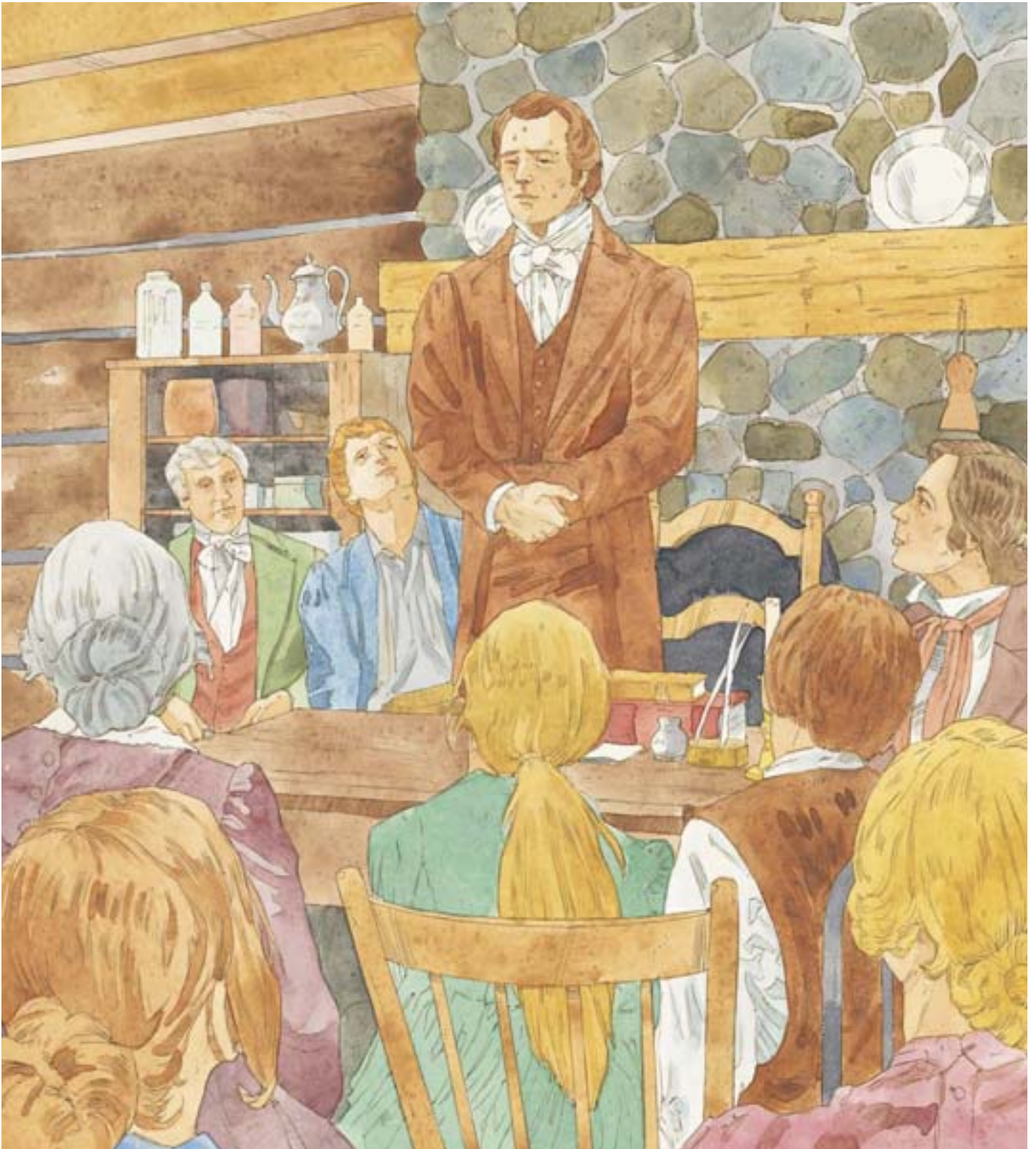
The men tore off Joseph's clothes and smeared tar on his skin. They covered the tar with feathers and beat him.



The mob went away, thinking Joseph would die. Joseph tried to stand up, but he couldn't. He rested for a while, then got enough strength to crawl back to the house.



Joseph's friends cleaned the tar from his body. It was hard to get the tar off. His skin was burned and sore.



The next day was Sunday. In great pain, Joseph went to church and gave a talk. Some of the men in the mob came to the meeting and were surprised to see Joseph.

The Prophet had not let them stop him from doing the Lord's work.



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CHAPTER 28

# The Prophet Joseph Goes to Missouri Again

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March–May 1832



Joseph Smith received a revelation in which Jesus said the Saints were like His little children. They were still learning. Jesus said they should be happy and thankful. He would be their leader.

Doctrine and Covenants 78:17–18



Jesus said He wanted the Saints to take care of those who were poor. He wanted them to share with each other and help each other.

Doctrine and Covenants 78:3–6



Soon after Joseph Smith received this revelation, he and some of his friends went to Missouri again. The Saints in Missouri were happy to see him.



Joseph asked the Saints to come to a meeting so he could tell them about the revelation.



At the meeting the Lord gave Joseph another revelation. Jesus was happy that the Saints had forgiven each other. Because they had done this, He said He would forgive them.

Doctrine and Covenants 82:1



In this revelation Jesus also gave the Saints a new commandment. He said that He had given them the land of Zion, and they must share the land with each other.

Everyone should have what he or she needed. The Lord also asked the Saints to improve upon their talents and use them to benefit the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 82:17-20



After the meeting, Joseph visited the Saints in many towns. It was a happy time for him. He loved the Saints.



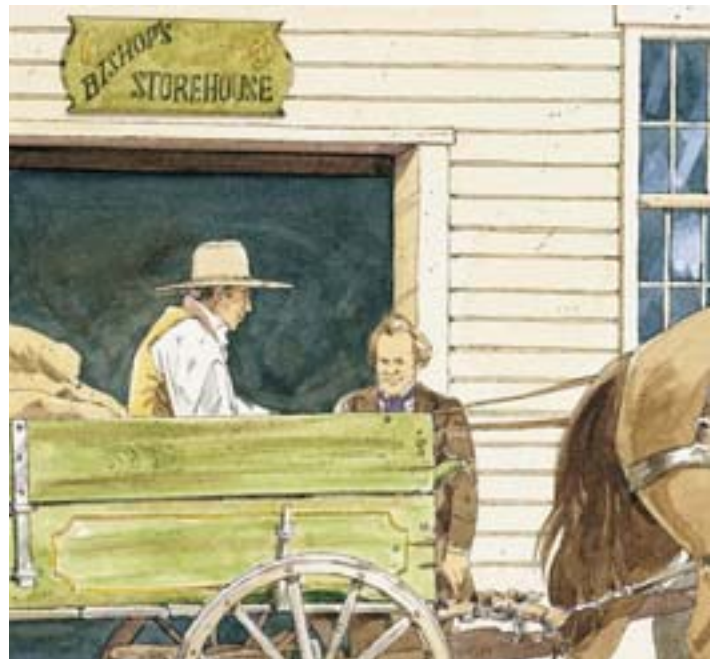
In another revelation that Joseph received while he was in Missouri, the Lord said that husbands should take care of their wives. Parents should take care of their children.

Doctrine and Covenants 83:2, 4



The Lord also said the Saints should take care of women who do not have husbands. The Saints should also take care of children who do not have fathers or mothers.

Doctrine and Covenants 83:6



Jesus said the Saints should give food and other items to the bishop to put in a storehouse. He said the bishop should use what is in the storehouse to help those who are poor.

Doctrine and Covenants 83:6



After Joseph Smith completed his work in Missouri, he and Bishop Whitney started back to Kirtland. They rode in a wagon.



One day something scared the horses and made them run fast.



Joseph jumped from the wagon, but he wasn't hurt. Bishop Whitney jumped from the wagon and broke his leg.



Joseph Smith and Bishop Whitney stayed at an inn. Bishop Whitney rested for four weeks. Joseph stayed with him while his leg got better.



While they were at the inn, someone put poison in Joseph's food. He became very sick.



Joseph asked Bishop Whitney to give him a blessing. Bishop Whitney used the power of the priesthood to bless Joseph, and he was healed.



Joseph thanked God for healing him. When Joseph and Bishop Whitney were well enough to travel, they went home to their families.



CHAPTER 29

# A Revelation about the Priesthood

September 1832



**M**any men of the Church went on missions. When they came home, they went to see Joseph Smith in Kirtland.

Doctrine and Covenants 84, section heading



The men told Joseph about their missions. They had baptized many people. They were happy about their missions, and Joseph was happy too.

Doctrine and Covenants 84, section heading



All these missionaries had the priesthood. The priesthood is the power of God. The missionaries wanted to know more about the priesthood.





Jesus gave Joseph a revelation about the priesthood. Jesus told him about some of the men who had the priesthood long ago. Adam, who was the first person to live on the earth, had the priesthood.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:6-16



All the Old Testament prophets had the priesthood. Some of these prophets were Enoch, Noah, Moses, Melchizedek, and Abraham. Melchizedek gave the priesthood to Abraham.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:6-15



Jesus said that men must hold the priesthood to lead His Church. Men who hold the priesthood can baptize people and give them the gift of the Holy Ghost. They can bless the sacrament. They can give blessings to sick

people. All these things help the Saints during their lives on earth and prepare them to live with Heavenly Father again.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:19-22



Jesus told Joseph that men must be righteous to receive the priesthood. Those who receive it make a covenant, or promise, with God. They promise to be faithful and

to use the priesthood to help other people. God promises that if they are faithful, they can become His special sons. One day He will share all He has with them.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:33–39



Jesus told Joseph Smith that more men should go on missions. They should preach the gospel to all the world.

They should teach people to repent, and they should baptize them and give them the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:62–64



Jesus said missionaries will be blessed if they work hard. Angels will help them, and Heavenly Father will give them what they need.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:80–88



The revelation ended. Joseph and the missionaries were happy to know more about the priesthood. They wanted to use the priesthood the right way.



In a later revelation, Jesus told Joseph how men should use the priesthood. Men should never use the priesthood to be bossy or mean. God will give priesthood power only to men who are righteous.

Doctrine and Covenants 121:36–37



Men should use the priesthood with love and kindness. Those who listen to the Holy Ghost will always have priesthood power.

Doctrine and Covenants 121:41–43, 45–46



CHAPTER 30

# A Revelation about War

25 December 1832



Many people were being baptized into the Church. The gospel made them happy, but they were worried about things that were happening in the world.



Earthquakes and wars were happening in many places.



Sad things were also happening in the United States. Some people didn't want to be part of the country. They wanted to have their own leaders.



On Christmas Day 1832, Jesus gave Joseph Smith a revelation about war.

Doctrine and Covenants 87



Jesus said the people in the United States would fight against each other in a war. This prophecy was fulfilled when the American Civil War started about 30 years later.

Doctrine and Covenants 87:1-3



Jesus also revealed that there would be wars in all other parts of the world. Many people would die, and there would be terrible sadness. Jesus said the Saints should be faithful during these hard times.

Doctrine and Covenants 87:3-8



Joseph Smith was sad to know there would be so many wars. He knew that if people would obey God's commandments, they wouldn't fight and have war.



CHAPTER 31

# The Word of Wisdom

February 1833



Joseph Smith started a school for men in the Church. It was called the School of the Prophets.



The school was held in a room in Newel Whitney's store in Kirtland, Ohio. In this school, Joseph and other Church leaders taught each other about the priesthood,

the scriptures, and other things. The school was to help the men prepare for Church leadership and missionary service.



Many of the men smoked pipes or cigars, which filled the room with smoke. Some of the men chewed tobacco and spit on the floor, making it very dirty.



Emma Smith, Joseph's wife, cleaned the room after each meeting. She and Joseph became concerned about the brethren's use of tobacco. Joseph wondered if people should smoke or chew tobacco.



Joseph prayed to know what was right. Jesus gave him a revelation called the Word of Wisdom. Jesus said that some people want others to do things that are bad for

their bodies. In the Word of Wisdom, Jesus told the Saints about things that are bad for their bodies. He also told them about things that are good for their bodies.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:1, 4



Jesus said alcohol is not good for people. They should not have drinks with alcohol in them. Alcohol should be used only on the outside of the body.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:5-7



Jesus said tobacco is not good for people. They should not smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. They should not chew tobacco.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:8



Jesus said the Saints should not drink hot drinks such as tea and coffee. These drinks are not good for the body.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:9



Jesus said many plants and animals are good for people to eat. People should thank Heavenly Father for good food.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:11-12





Jesus said people should not eat too much meat.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:12



The Lord said grains are good for the body. Some grains are wheat, rice, corn, and oats. Fruits and vegetables are also good for the body.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:11, 14–17



Jesus promised great blessings to those who obey the Word of Wisdom. Their bodies will be stronger and healthier than if they did not obey it. Their minds will

also be healthier, and they will receive wisdom and treasures of knowledge.

Doctrine and Covenants 89:18–21



CHAPTER 32

# The Church of Jesus Christ in Kirtland

1833–1834



The Lord said that Joseph Smith should have men to help him lead the Church. These men would be Joseph's counselors. The Lord revealed that Sidney Rigdon and Frederick G. Williams should be these counselors.

Doctrine and Covenants 90:6



In March 1833, Joseph Smith ordained his counselors at a sacred meeting in Kirtland, Ohio. Joseph and his counselors were the First Presidency of the Church.



Today the living prophet is the leader of the Church. He and his counselors are the First Presidency of the Church.



Jesus told Joseph Smith that the Saints should build more Church buildings. The most important building would be

a temple in Kirtland. The Saints also needed to build a printing shop and a place for the First Presidency to work.

Doctrine and Covenants 94; 95



The Saints obeyed the Lord and started to build the Kirtland Temple. It was hard work, and all the Saints needed to help.



As more people joined the Church, Jesus told Joseph Smith to choose more leaders. He said Joseph's father should be the patriarch for the Church. A patriarch gives special blessings to the Saints. Today there are patriarchs in most stakes of the Church.



Jesus also told Joseph to choose twelve men to serve on a high council. High councilors hold the office of high priest in the Melchizedek Priesthood. One of their assignments is to help work out problems that might arise in the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 102



In February 1834, Joseph Smith organized the first stake of the Church. A stake is many members of the Church who live in the same area. All the Saints in Kirtland were in the first stake.



Today the Church has thousands of stakes.



CHAPTER 33

# A Revelation about Jesus Christ

May 1833



In one of the revelations to the Prophet Joseph Smith, Jesus told about Himself. He said people can see His face and know Him if they will obey His commandments and pray.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:1



Jesus said He is the Light of the World. He shows us the right way to live.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:2



Jesus lived with Heavenly Father before the earth was made. Jesus created the earth and all things that are on it.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:7-10



Jesus was not like His Father in Heaven at first. He did not know all the things His Father knew, and He did not have all the power and glory His Father had. Jesus tried hard to be like His Father. Gradually He received the power and glory of His Father.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:12-17



Jesus said we should obey God's commandments. As we obey, we can come to know all things. We can also become like God and receive the fulness of His blessings.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:20, 27-28



Jesus said Satan does not want people to know the truth and become like God. Jesus told Joseph to teach his family the truth.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:39-40, 48



Jesus also told Frederick G. Williams and Sidney Rigdon to teach their families the truth and to obey the commandments. Then Satan could not have power over them.

Doctrine and Covenants 93:41-44



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CHAPTER 34

# God Warns the People of Zion

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July–August 1833



God commanded more Saints to go to Jackson County, Missouri. New people arrived there almost every week, and they built homes, stores, and a printing shop.

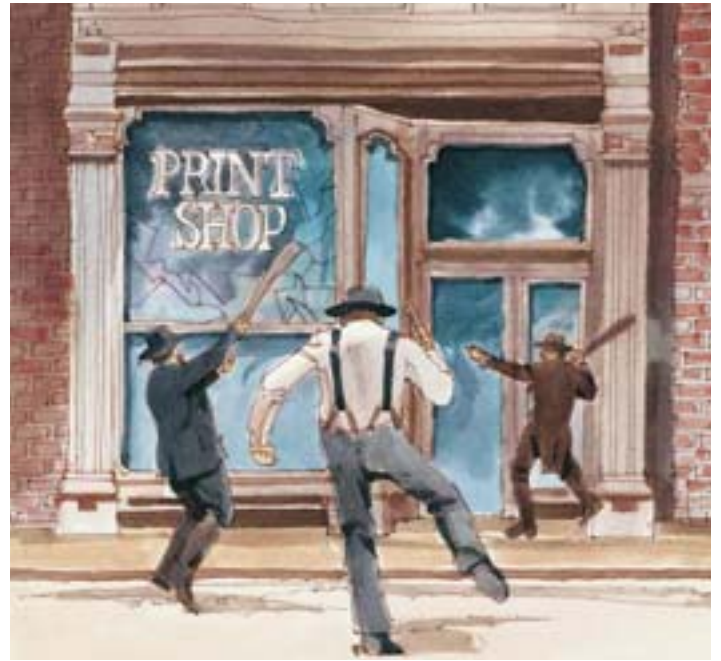


The Saints in Missouri had peace and happiness for a time. However, problems soon arose. Some of the Saints were disobedient and unkind. Some of them argued

with their leaders. Other people who lived there began to worry about so many Saints moving into the area. These people wanted the Saints to leave.



A mob of angry people met. They sent some men to tell the leaders of the Church that the Saints must leave Jackson County. But the leaders knew that God wanted them to build the city of Zion in Jackson County. They told the men that the Saints could not leave.



The men in the mob became very angry. They broke into the Saints' printing shop and destroyed it.



Next, the mob caught Bishop Partridge and Charles Allen and put tar and feathers on their skin. The mob also beat some of the other Saints.



Three days later, members of the mob rode through the town and shot their guns at buildings. They shouted mean things at the Saints and said they would whip anyone they caught. They burned crops and destroyed homes, barns, and stores.





Oliver Cowdery was one of the leaders of the Church in Missouri. He was sent to Kirtland to see Joseph Smith.



When Oliver arrived in Kirtland, he told Joseph what was happening in Jackson County. The Saints there wanted to know what they should do.



Joseph told Oliver about some revelations he had received. The Lord had revealed that the Saints should build a temple in Zion. The temple would be paid for by the tithing of the people. Jesus told Joseph that

Zion would become great if the Saints were obedient. But the Saints would be punished if they were not obedient.

Doctrine and Covenants 97:10–12, 18, 22–26



Jesus said the Saints should obey the laws of the country. They should vote for righteous people to be the leaders of the land. When wicked people become leaders, the people are sad.

Doctrine and Covenants 98:4-10



The Lord commanded the Saints to obey all His words. He said they should not be afraid of their enemies. Instead, the Saints should forgive their enemies. They should not fight their enemies unless God commands them to fight. The Lord said that He would punish the wicked people.

Doctrine and Covenants 98:11, 14, 23-29, 33, 39-48



A few weeks later, Jesus said the Saints in Zion would have trouble for a time because they had not obeyed

the commandments. However, Jesus promised that someday He would help the Saints build Zion.

Doctrine and Covenants 100:13-17



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CHAPTER 35

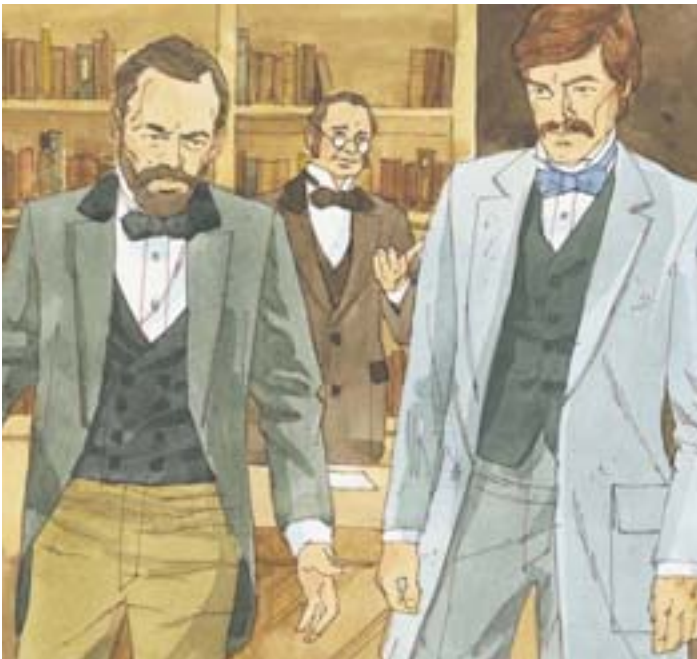
# The Saints Leave Jackson County, Missouri

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September–December 1833



**B**ecause the mob in Jackson County was causing so much trouble, the Saints tried to get help from the governor of Missouri. William Phelps and Orson Hyde went to see the governor. They told him about the mob and how their homes had been destroyed.



The governor would not help them. He told them to ask the judges for help. But the judges were friends of the mob, and they would not help either.



The mob attacked the Saints for six days. They tore down their homes, hurt the men, and broke into a store and threw everything on the floor.



The mob made the Saints leave their homes. It was winter, and many people died because they were

homeless in the cold, wet weather. The Saints went to other parts of Missouri to get away from the mob.



The Saints were sad. Their homes, farms, and stores had been destroyed. Their animals had been stolen. The governor and the judges would not help them.



But the Saints still had faith in God. They knew the Church of Jesus Christ was true, and they knew that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God.



While the Saints were being persecuted in Missouri, Joseph Smith was in Kirtland, Ohio. Jesus gave Joseph a revelation explaining why the Saints in Missouri were having trouble.



Jesus said some of the Saints had not obeyed the commandments. They had not been united, as the people of Zion must be. Some of them argued and said mean things to each other. Some were jealous, and some would not share.

Doctrine and Covenants 101:2, 6–8



In spite of these problems, Jesus said He loved the Saints and would not forget them. He said they should be comforted because the pure in heart would someday return and build Zion. Jesus told the Saints to prepare for when He comes to earth again. When He comes,

people will love each other and have peace. Those who were persecuted for following Jesus will be blessed. Satan will not have power to tempt people. There will be no death as it is known today. Everyone will be happy.

Doctrine and Covenants 101:9, 16–19, 22–36



CHAPTER 36

# Zion's Camp

February–June 1834



While people in Missouri were making the Saints leave their homes, Joseph Smith was nearly 1,000 miles away in Kirtland, Ohio. He prayed to know how to help the Saints in Missouri.



In a revelation, Jesus told Joseph that some of the men in the Church should go to Missouri to help the Saints. Joseph Smith was to be their leader. The Lord wanted 500 men to go.

Doctrine and Covenants 103:22, 30–36



Joseph obeyed the Lord. He told the Saints that 500 men should go to the land of Zion in Missouri. But after a few weeks, only 100 had said they would go.



The 100 men left Kirtland and began the long journey to Missouri. The group was called Zion's Camp. The men often walked 35 miles a day despite being very hungry, thirsty, and hot. They camped together at night.



On the way, 100 more men joined them. But there still were not as many men as the Lord wanted.



Members of the camp traveled 1,000 miles. Some of them said the trip was too hard. They complained and argued. They blamed Joseph Smith when there wasn't enough good food. They said he wasn't a good leader. Joseph told these men that they must repent, or they would get sick and die.



Many of the men in the camp were righteous. They helped Joseph and obeyed God's commandments.



At last Zion's Camp got near Jackson County, Missouri. They camped by a river.



Members of a mob had spied on the camp and knew where it was. At night the mob came close to the camp and planned to attack it.



God protected Zion's Camp by sending a big storm. The wind blew trees down. Large hailstones fell from the sky, and lightning hit trees. The river flooded the

land. One man in the mob was killed by lightning, and other men in the mob were hurt by the storm. No one in Zion's Camp was hurt.





The men in the mob were afraid and ran away. They did not hurt anyone in Zion's Camp.



Three days after the storm, the Lord gave Joseph Smith a revelation. He said the Saints would have to wait to build the city of Zion. They needed to become more obedient, giving, and united. They also needed to learn more about the things the Lord required of them.

Doctrine and Covenants 105:1-6, 9-13



The Lord also told the men of Zion's Camp that they should not fight against the Missouri mobs. Some of the men were upset about this. They felt that the trip would not be worthwhile if they did not fight to help the Saints in Missouri.

Doctrine and Covenants 105:14-19



A few days later, many men in Zion's Camp got very sick. Fourteen of them died. The Prophet told the men that the

sickness would go away if they would humble themselves and repent. This promise was fulfilled.



At the end of Zion's Camp, Joseph Smith met with the Saints in Missouri and chose men for a high council. A few days later, he and many of the men in Zion's Camp started back to Kirtland.



Although the men of Zion's Camp did not help the Saints in Missouri, the camp was still valuable. It helped prepare Brigham Young and others for leadership in the Church. They were able to prove whether they would be obedient and make sacrifices for the Lord's work. A few months later, many of those who were faithful were called as leaders in the Church.



CHAPTER 37

# Priesthood Leaders

February–March 1835



Joseph Smith asked the men of Zion's Camp and others to come to an important meeting in Kirtland, Ohio. Joseph told the men that Jesus wanted twelve Apostles to be called to help lead the Church.



The Lord had told Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris to choose the Apostles. At the meeting, Oliver, David, and Martin were blessed by the First Presidency of the Church. Then they prayed together and chose twelve good men.

Doctrine and Covenants 18:37



The twelve men were ordained Apostles. The calling of the Apostles was one of the most important events in the restoration of the Lord's Church.



Apostles are very important leaders in the Church. They know that Jesus is our Savior. They teach the gospel all over the world.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:23–24



After a few days, other men were chosen to be leaders in the Church. They were called the Seventy. The Seventy help the Apostles.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:25, 34



One day the Twelve Apostles were in a meeting. They were getting ready to go on missions, and they wanted Heavenly Father's help.



The Apostles asked Joseph Smith to pray for a revelation to help them on their missions. Jesus gave Joseph and the Apostles a great revelation in which He told them about the priesthood.

Doctrine and Covenants 107, section heading



The priesthood is the power of God. It is the greatest power on earth. God gives the priesthood to righteous men. Men who hold the priesthood can be authorized

to preach the gospel, perform ordinances, and be leaders in the Church.



There are two priesthoods in the Church. One is the Melchizedek Priesthood, which is also called the greater priesthood. The President of the Church, his counselors, the Twelve Apostles, and the Seventy all have the Melchizedek Priesthood.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:1, 22–26



The President of the Church is a prophet of God. He tells people what Jesus wants them to do. The prophet has counselors who help him. The prophet and his counselors are the First Presidency of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:22



High priests also have the Melchizedek Priesthood. Many leaders in stakes and wards are high priests. These include stake presidents, bishops, and high councilors.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:10, 12, 17



Men who are ordained elders also have the Melchizedek Priesthood. Elders are to teach Church members and watch over them.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:38–45; 43:15; 107:7, 11–12



Elders are also called to go on missions to teach the gospel to people throughout the world.

Doctrine and Covenants 133:8



All men who have the Melchizedek Priesthood can bless people. They can also give people the Holy Ghost.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:43; 42:43–44; 107:18



The other priesthood is the Aaronic Priesthood, which is also called the lesser priesthood. The Aaronic Priesthood includes the offices of bishop, priest, teacher, and deacon. Priests can baptize people, bless the sacrament, and help the elders.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:46–52



Teachers prepare the sacrament. They go home teaching and help members of the Church live good lives.

Doctrine and Covenants 20:53–57



Deacons pass the sacrament. They also collect fast offerings and help the bishop.



Jesus said all men who have the priesthood should learn what God wants them to do. If they work hard, Heavenly Father will bless them.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:99



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CHAPTER 38

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# The Pearl of Great Price

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**T**he Pearl of Great Price is a book of scripture written by prophets. There are five parts of the Pearl of Great Price. They are the book of Moses, the book of Abraham, Joseph Smith—Matthew, Joseph Smith—History, and the Articles of Faith.



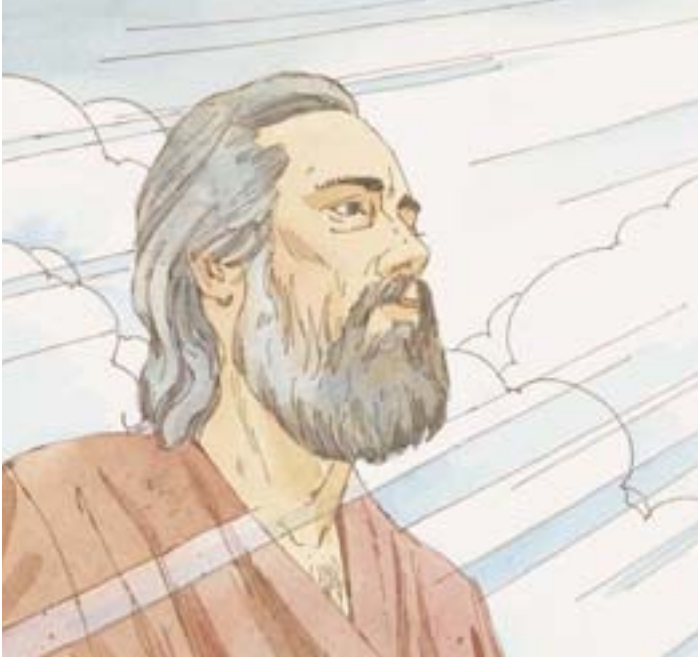
## **The Book of Moses**

The first part of the Pearl of Great Price is a revelation given to Joseph Smith. It is named the book of Moses. Moses was a prophet who lived long ago.



The book of Moses tells what God said to Moses on a high mountain. Moses saw God and talked with Him. God said He had a special work for Moses to do.





God showed Moses the world and everything that would happen in it. Moses also saw all of God's children who would live in the world.

Moses 1:8, 27-29



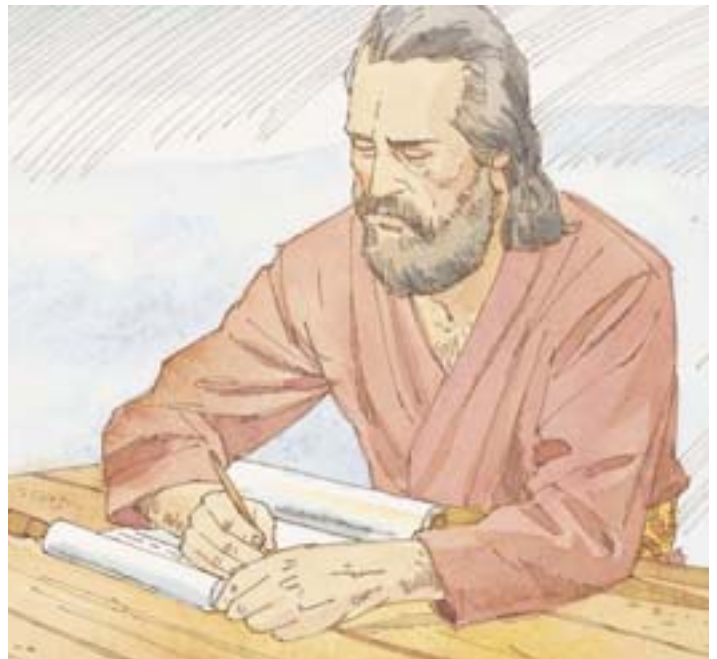
God left Moses, and Satan came and told Moses to worship him. Moses would not worship Satan and told him to go away. When Satan would not leave, Moses asked God for help. Receiving strength from God, Moses again told Satan to leave. Satan finally left, showing great anger because Moses would not worship him.

Moses 1:9, 12-22



Moses was filled with the Holy Ghost. He prayed, and God came and talked with him again. God told Moses that there are many worlds—more than we can count. He said that Jesus created these worlds and would create even more because there is no end to God's works.

Moses 1:24-25, 30-38



Moses learned that God's work is to help His children so they can return to live with Him forever. The book of Moses also tells about the creation of the earth, Adam and Eve and their family, the prophet Enoch and the city of Zion, and other prophets who lived long ago.

Moses 1:39; 2-8



### The Book of Abraham

The second part of the Pearl of Great Price is the book of Abraham. In July 1835, a man named Mr. Chandler came to Kirtland. He showed the Saints some mummies

from Egypt. Long ago, people in Egypt used cloth to wrap the bodies of people who died. These bodies are called mummies.



Some rolls of very old paper were with the mummies. Some strange writing was on the paper, and Mr. Chandler was looking for someone who could read it. He had heard that Joseph Smith could translate the writing.



Joseph looked at the writing. The Lord revealed to him what some of it meant, and he told Mr. Chandler. Some of the Saints bought the rolls of paper from Mr. Chandler.



Joseph Smith began to study the writing, and God revealed the translation to him. Oliver Cowdery and William Phelps wrote what Joseph translated. The writing was by the great prophet Abraham, who had lived in Egypt long ago.



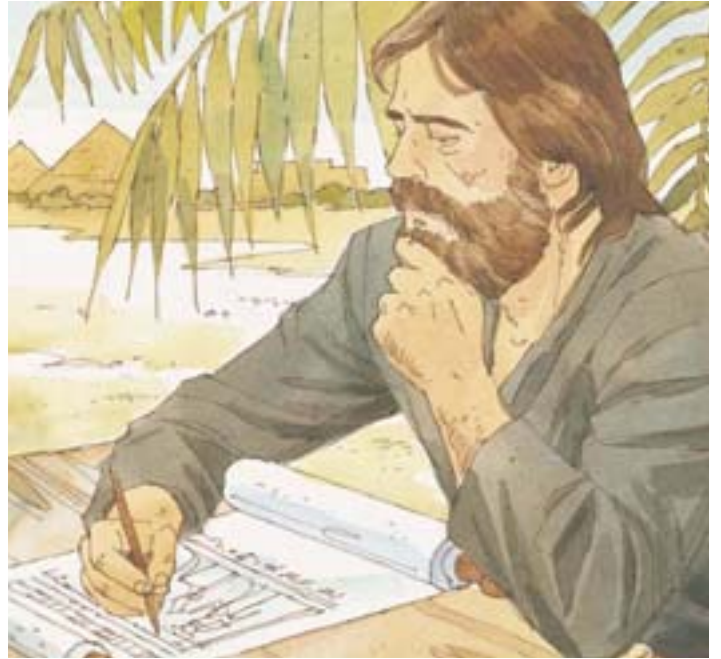
Jesus had talked with Abraham and told him about our life before we came to earth. Jesus said we lived as spirit children with Heavenly Father before we were born. The book of Abraham also tells about the creation of the earth, sun, moon, and stars, as well as the creation of plants, animals, and people.

Abraham 3-4



Abraham wanted to receive the blessings of happiness and peace. Because Abraham was faithful, Jesus made a covenant with him. A covenant is a sacred promise between God and His children.

Abraham 1:2



In this covenant, God promised Abraham that he would have the priesthood and a great family. God also promised Abraham that future members of his family would be given the gospel and the priesthood if they were faithful. The family of Abraham would take the gospel to all the people of the earth.

Abraham 2:8-11



**Joseph Smith—Matthew and Joseph Smith—History**  
 Joseph Smith—Matthew contains inspired corrections the Prophet made to part of the book of Matthew in the Bible. Joseph Smith—History contains the Prophet's writings about the First Vision, the gold plates, the Book of Mormon, and the restoration of the priesthood.



Joseph Smith wrote about the beginning of the Church. With help from God, he also wrote 13 important statements about what members of the Church believe. Joseph called these statements the Articles of Faith.



**The Articles of Faith**  
 The last part of the Pearl of Great Price is the Articles of Faith. One day a man whose friend was writing a book came to see Joseph Smith. The man wanted something about the Church in the book, so he asked Joseph to tell how the Church began.



On 1 March 1842, the Articles of Faith were printed in the Church's newspaper. The Saints read the Articles of Faith and believed what Joseph had written.



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# The Articles of Faith

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JOSEPH SMITH



1

WE BELIEVE  
in God, the Eternal Father, and in  
His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the  
Holy Ghost.

2

WE BELIEVE  
that men will be punished for their own  
sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

3

WE BELIEVE  
that through the Atonement of Christ,  
all mankind may be saved, by obedience  
to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

4

WE BELIEVE  
that the first principles and ordinances  
of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord  
Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third,  
Baptism by immersion for the remission  
of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for  
the gift of the Holy Ghost.

5

WE BELIEVE  
that a man must be called of God, by  
prophecy, and by the laying on of hands  
by those who are in authority, to preach  
the Gospel and administer in the  
ordinances thereof.

6

WE BELIEVE  
in the same organization that existed  
in the Primitive Church, namely, apostles,  
prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists,  
and so forth.

7

WE BELIEVE  
in the gift of tongues,  
prophecy, revelation, visions,  
healing, interpretation of  
tongues, and so forth.

8

WE BELIEVE  
the Bible to be the word of God as  
far as it is translated correctly; we also  
believe the Book of Mormon to be  
the word of God.

9

WE BELIEVE  
all that God has revealed, all that  
He does now reveal, and we believe  
that He will yet reveal many great and  
important things pertaining to  
the Kingdom of God.

10

WE BELIEVE  
in the literal gathering of Israel and in  
the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion  
(the New Jerusalem) will be built upon the  
American continent; that Christ will reign  
personally upon the earth; and, that the  
earth will be renewed and receive its  
paradisiacal glory.

11

WE CLAIM  
the privilege of worshipping  
Almighty God according to the dictates of  
our own conscience, and allow all men  
the same privilege, let them worship how,  
where, or what they may.

12

WE BELIEVE  
in being subject to kings, presidents,  
rulers, and magistrates, in obeying,  
honoring, and sustaining the law.

13

WE BELIEVE  
in being honest, true, chaste, benevolent,  
virtuous, and in doing good to all men;  
indeed, we may say that we follow the  
admonition of Paul—We believe all  
things, we hope all things, we have  
endured many things, and hope to be  
able to endure all things. If there is  
anything virtuous, lovely, or of good  
report or praiseworthy, we  
seek after these things.



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CHAPTER 39

# The Kirtland Temple Is Dedicated

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January–March 1836



The Lord had commanded the Saints to build a temple in Kirtland. The Saints were poor, but they sacrificed and worked hard to build the temple. They had faith that the Lord would help them do what He had asked them to do.



When the temple was nearly finished, some of the leaders of the Church held a meeting there. At the meeting,

Joseph Smith's father blessed the leaders of the Church. Joseph's father was the patriarch of the Church.



Then Joseph Smith had a wonderful vision in which he saw the celestial kingdom of heaven. The celestial kingdom is where God lives. Joseph saw how beautiful

the celestial kingdom is. He saw Heavenly Father and Jesus. He also saw his brother Alvin, who had died.

Doctrine and Covenants 137:1-5

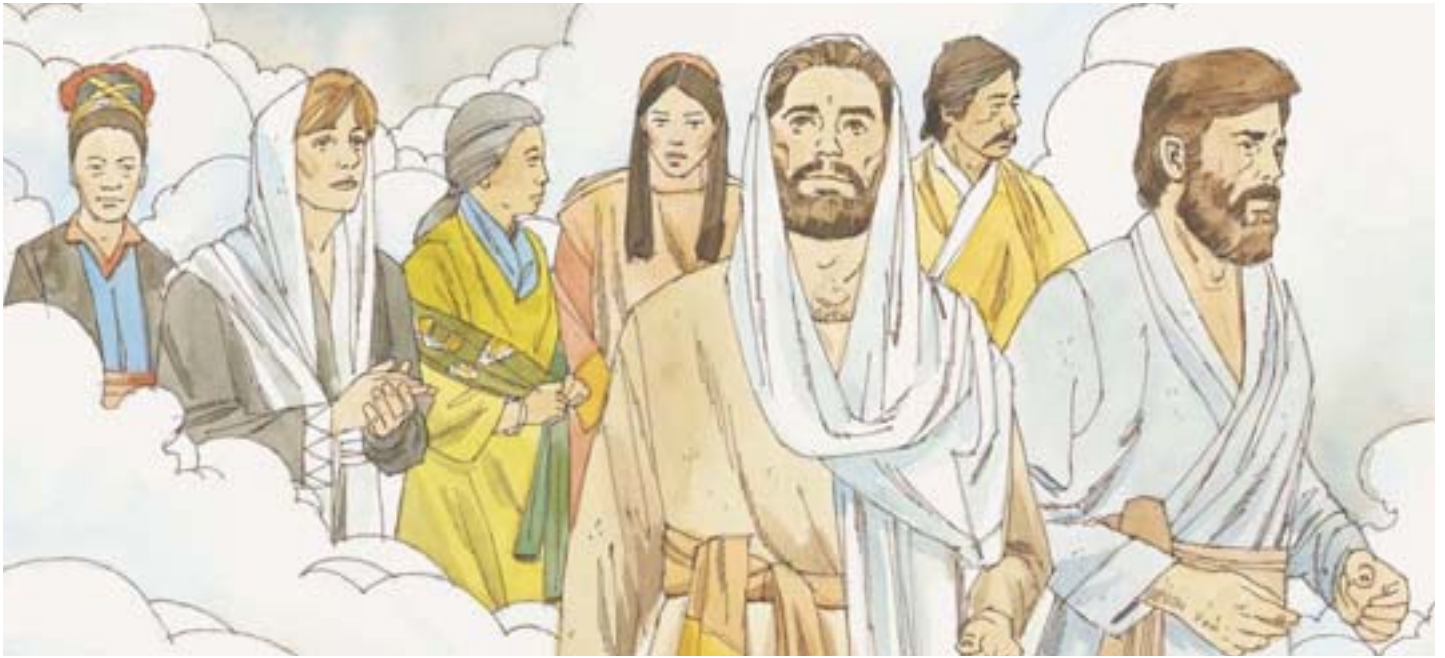


Joseph was surprised to see Alvin in the celestial kingdom because Alvin had not been baptized before he died. Jesus explained that many people did not know about the gospel when they lived on earth.

Doctrine and Covenants 137:7-9



Some of these people, like Alvin, lived at times when the true gospel of Jesus Christ was not on the earth. Some of them lived in areas where missionaries were not able to teach them.



Some of these people would have believed the gospel and been baptized if they had known about it when

they lived on earth. These people will go to the celestial kingdom.

Doctrine and Covenants 137:7-9



In this vision, Joseph also learned about children who die before they are eight years old. Jesus said these children will go to the celestial kingdom.

Doctrine and Covenants 137:10





At last the Kirtland Temple was finished and ready to be dedicated. That means the temple would be given to the Lord and used only for His work. The Saints had a special meeting to dedicate the temple.



Many Saints came to the meeting. They were very happy to have the temple. They sang and prayed to Heavenly Father. They promised to follow the Prophet Joseph Smith and other Church leaders.



Joseph Smith offered a special prayer to dedicate the temple. After the prayer, the temple was a sacred building. It was the house of the Lord. Angels were in the

Kirtland Temple that day. The Holy Ghost was with the Saints. It was a wonderful day!

Doctrine and Covenants 109



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CHAPTER 40

# Visions in the Kirtland Temple

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April 1836



One week after the Kirtland Temple was dedicated, the Saints held another meeting there. The Apostles blessed the sacrament, and Joseph Smith and his counselors passed the sacrament to the Saints.

Doctrine and Covenants 110, section heading



Then Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery went to a place by themselves in the temple, where they knelt down and prayed. After their prayer, they received a wonderful

vision. They saw the Lord Jesus Christ. His eyes were bright, like fire. His hair was as white as snow, and His face was brighter than the sun.

Doctrine and Covenants 110, section heading  
Doctrine and Covenants 110:1-3



Jesus told Joseph and Oliver many wonderful things. He told them to be happy because their sins were forgiven. He was pleased with the temple and said the Saints who built it should be happy. He accepted the

temple as His holy house. Jesus said He would come to the temple often. But if the people did not keep the temple holy, He would not come.

Doctrine and Covenants 110:4–8



Then Joseph and Oliver saw Moses in the temple. Moses was a prophet who lived long ago. He returned to earth to restore special priesthood power to Joseph and Oliver. This power would help the children of Israel be gathered

into the Church from all parts of the earth. This power also gives the prophet authority to send missionaries to preach the gospel throughout the world.

Doctrine and Covenants 110:11



Next, Joseph and Oliver saw Elias. Elias restored to them special priesthood power that had been given to Abraham. Abraham was also a prophet who lived

long ago. With this power, the Saints could have the same special blessings that God had promised to Abraham.

Doctrine and Covenants 84:33–34; 110:12  
Abraham 2:8–11; Genesis 12:2–3; 13:16



Then Joseph and Oliver saw Elijah, another prophet who lived long ago. Elijah restored to them special priesthood power to help righteous families. This power makes it

possible for families to be sealed together in the temple so they can live together forever.

Doctrine and Covenants 2:2; 110:13–16  
Malachi 4:5–6



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CHAPTER 41

# Trouble in Kirtland

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1837-1838



The Saints in Kirtland, Ohio, were happy. The Lord blessed them.



Some elders left Kirtland and went to teach the gospel in other areas. Many people listened to the elders and joined the Church.



Then trouble started in Kirtland. Joseph Smith and other Church leaders started a bank where many Saints kept their money.



Some of the Saints wanted to get a lot of money. One man who worked at the bank was not honest. He stole some money.



Joseph Smith told other men to take good care of the money, but the bank continued to have problems. Soon it had to be closed because all the money was gone. This was a hard time for many banks in the United States, and many others were also closed.



Many of the Saints were angry because they couldn't get their money back. Some of them said it was Joseph Smith's fault that the bank closed. Some of Joseph's best friends said bad things about him. Some people even wanted to kill him.



Some leaders of the Church were angry too. Some of them didn't want to be members of the Church anymore. A few of them became enemies of the Church.



Other Church leaders loved Joseph and helped him. Brigham Young was one of the good leaders. He told the Saints that he knew Joseph was a prophet of God. Some people were mad at Brigham Young for supporting the Prophet, and he had to leave Kirtland so they could not hurt him.



The enemies of the Church made a lot of trouble in Kirtland. They stole things from the Saints and damaged their homes. They also hurt the Saints and threatened to kill some of them.



Some elders of the Church held meetings in the Kirtland Temple where they criticized Joseph Smith and talked about replacing him with a new leader. Later some people used guns and knives to try to take over the temple. It soon became unsafe for Joseph to stay in Kirtland, so he left in January 1838 and went to Missouri.



Because of continued persecution in Kirtland, Church leaders began making plans for the Saints to leave. In July 1838, more than 500 Church members left Kirtland. In October, after a hard journey of nearly 1,000 miles, they arrived in Far West, Missouri. Joseph Smith and many other Church members were living there.



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CHAPTER 42

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# Far West, Missouri

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January–July 1838



Joseph Smith left Kirtland, Ohio, because some people there were trying to kill him. It was winter and very cold. Joseph's enemies followed him, carrying knives and guns.



Joseph had to hide. The Lord protected him so his enemies could not find him. One night he even stayed in the same house as his enemies, who did not know he was there.



Another time Joseph's enemies did not recognize him when they passed him on the street.





Joseph traveled nearly 1,000 miles to Far West, Missouri. The Saints in Missouri were building this town after being forced to leave other parts of the state. They were happy to see the Prophet.



Some Church leaders in Missouri were not obeying the commandments. Some of them tried to get too much money. Sometimes they were angry with each other and disagreed about how to lead the Saints. Some of them were even angry at Joseph Smith.



Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and other people were excommunicated. This means their membership in the Church was taken away. Joseph was sad because these men had been his friends.



Other men were chosen to lead the Church in Far West. Soon the Church began to prosper again in the area.



In May 1838, the Prophet and his friends were looking for other places for the Saints to build towns. One day they came to a special place, which Jesus said was named Adam-ondi-Ahman. Jesus had talked with Adam there.

Adam had brought his family together there and blessed them before he died. Someday Jesus and Adam and other righteous people will meet there again.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:53–56; 116



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CHAPTER 43

# Jesus Christ Names His Church

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April 1838



**W**hile Joseph Smith was in Far West, Missouri, Jesus gave him an important revelation about the name of the Church.



The Church is named The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is named after Jesus because it is His Church and He is its leader. The latter days are

the last days before Jesus will come back to the earth. Saints are righteous members of the Church. Latter-day Saints are the members of the Church who live now.

Doctrine and Covenants 115:4



CHAPTER 44

# Tithing

July 1838



The Lord had told Joseph Smith that members of the Church should pay tithing. While Joseph was in Far West, Missouri, he prayed to ask how much tithing the Saints should pay. The Lord revealed that the Saints should pay one-tenth of all they had for tithing.

Doctrine and Covenants 119, section heading  
Doctrine and Covenants 64:23; 119:3–4



If they earned 10 pennies, they should give one penny for tithing. If they earned 100 pennies, they should give 10 pennies.



The Saints paid tithing in other ways too. They gave one-tenth of the crops they grew, such as grain and hay. They also gave one-tenth of their chickens and other animals. They also paid tithing on milk and vegetables.



Tithing is used to build and maintain temples, meeting-houses, and other Church buildings. Tithing is also used to help with missionary work. In addition, it is used to help pay for translating and publishing the scriptures and other Church materials.



Tithing is used to help members of the Church. Tithing and other offerings are used to help buy food and clothes for needy people.



The Lord expects each of us to pay a full tithing. We give our tithing to the bishop. He sends it to the main offices of the Church, where the prophet and other Church leaders prayerfully decide how it should be used.

Doctrine and Covenants 120



Heavenly Father gives wonderful blessings to Saints who pay tithing. Saints who do not pay tithing cannot have all these blessings. The Bible says that Saints who do not pay tithing are robbing God.

Malachi 3:8-10



CHAPTER 45

# More Mobs in Missouri

1838-1839



Many Saints were living in Far West, Missouri, including Joseph Smith. The people built homes and schools and were happy.



But the Saints did not have peace for very long. Again, other people in Missouri began to make trouble for them.



A mob met to plan ways to hurt the Saints.



The mob did many bad things. They chased the Saints out of their homes.



They burned their homes and destroyed their farms.



They beat the men and put some of them in jail.



The mobs hurt some of the women.



The Saints asked Governor Boggs of Missouri for help. But other people were telling the governor lies about the Saints, and he would not help.



The problems between the Saints and the mobs continued to get worse. Thinking the Saints were to blame for these problems, Governor Boggs told some soldiers to kill the Saints if they did not leave Missouri.



Some Saints lived in a town named Haun's Mill. One day a mob came and attacked them.



Some of the Saints ran into the woods. Others ran into a log building for protection. The mob shot through the cracks in the walls. Then the mob entered the building and fired many more shots.





The mob killed 17 people at Haun's Mill and injured 13 others. Some children were shot and killed.



Then the mob robbed the homes and wagons of the Saints.



Later some soldiers captured Joseph Smith and other Church leaders. The soldiers were told to shoot Joseph and his friends.



But one leader of the soldiers would not obey. He said it would be murder to shoot Joseph and the others.



A trial was scheduled for Joseph and his friends. Before and during the trial, they were imprisoned in the town of Richmond, Missouri. The guards put chains on them. Joseph and his friends had to sleep on the cold floor.



The guards were very mean to the prisoners. They swore and told bad stories. They told how they had robbed and killed the Saints. They told how they had hurt the women and children. One night they laughed and bragged for several hours.



Joseph hated what they were saying. He didn't want to hear any more, so he stood up and commanded them to stop. "Silence," he said. "In the name of Jesus Christ I . . . command you to be still; I will not live another minute

and bear such language. Cease such talk, or you or I die this instant!" The guards were afraid and told Joseph they were sorry. They sat in a corner and were quiet the rest of the night.



CHAPTER 46

# Joseph Smith in Liberty Jail

November 1838–April 1839



Joseph Smith and his friends were imprisoned for many days in Richmond, Missouri. Then they were taken to a jail in Liberty, Missouri.



Joseph and his friends were kept in Liberty Jail for more than four months. They suffered very much. The jail was cold and dirty, and sometimes they were tied with chains. They had to sleep on the floor.



The food was not good. Sometimes it was poisoned and made them sick.



Joseph was sad. He did not know if he and his friends would ever get out of jail. He was worried about his family and the members of the Church.



Joseph prayed to ask Heavenly Father how long he and the Saints would have to suffer. He also asked Heavenly Father to help them.

Doctrine and Covenants 121:1-6



Answering this prayer, Jesus told Joseph to have peace. He said Joseph's troubles would last only a little while. Jesus also said that if Joseph would be faithful, God would bless him. Jesus told Joseph that his friends still loved him and that he would soon be with them.

Doctrine and Covenants 121:7-9



Jesus said the wicked people who had hurt the Saints would be punished. They and their children would suffer. They would not have the priesthood.

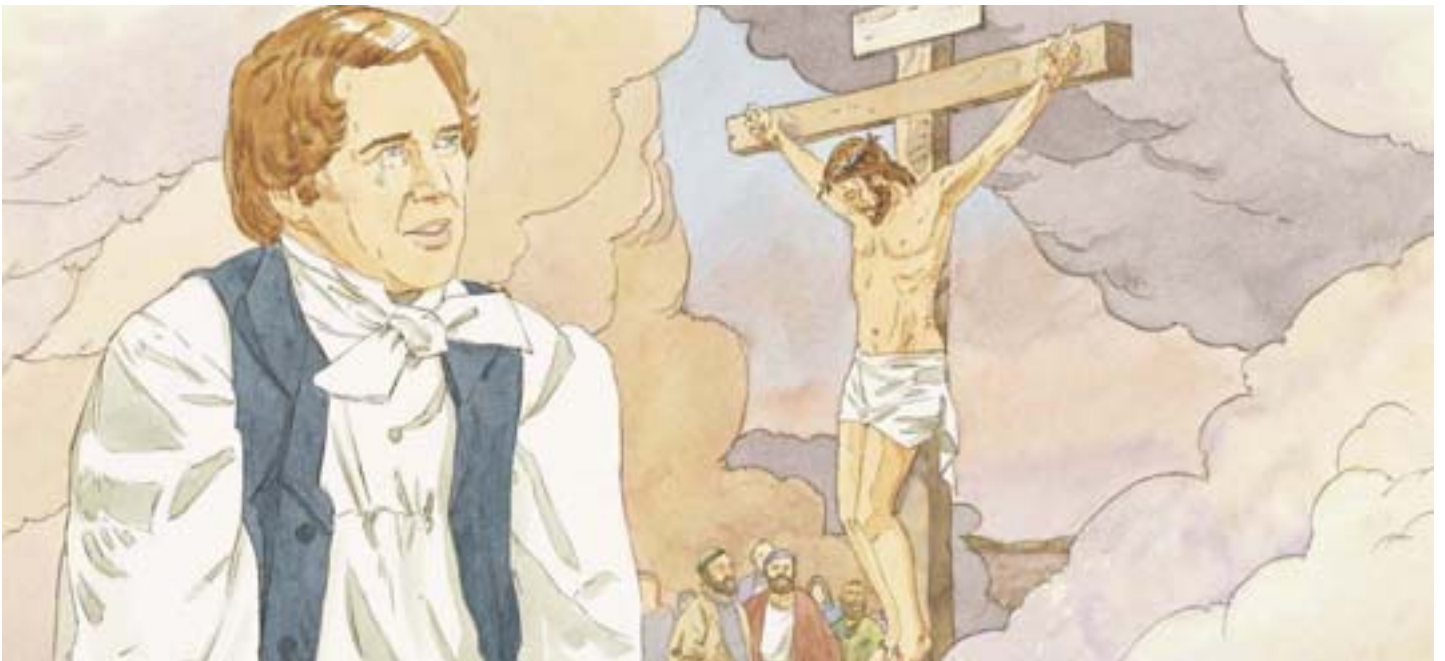
Doctrine and Covenants 121:11-23



Jesus told Joseph that many good things would happen to the Saints. Nothing could stop God from blessing them.

The Holy Ghost would teach them wonderful things about the heavens and the earth.

Doctrine and Covenants 121:26-33



Jesus said Joseph should not be afraid of what men could do to him. Jesus said problems and suffering can be for our good because they help us learn. Jesus reminded

Joseph that He had suffered more than anyone else. Jesus encouraged Joseph to be faithful and promised that God would be with him.

Doctrine and Covenants 122:7-9



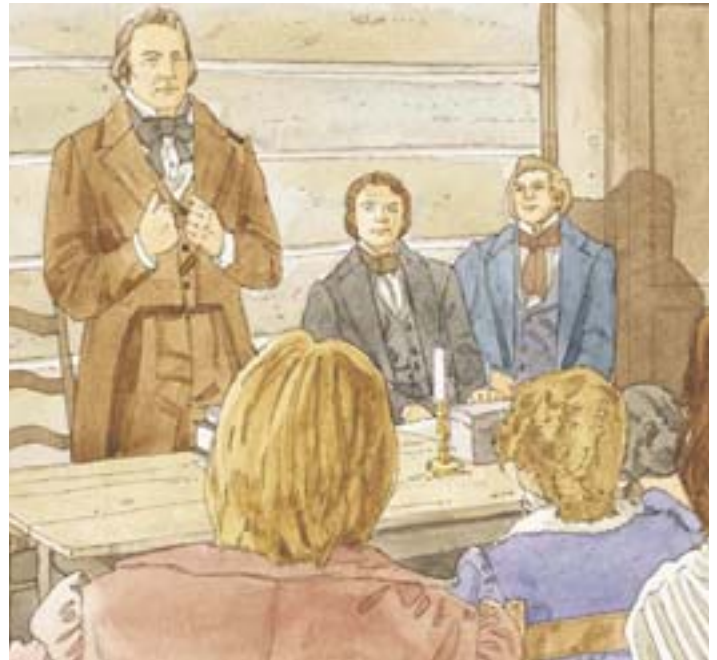
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CHAPTER 47

# The Saints Leave Missouri

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Winter 1839



While Joseph Smith was in jail, much of the responsibility for leading the Saints was placed on Brigham Young, one of the Apostles. He held a meeting to tell the Saints they must begin preparing to leave Missouri. Many of the Saints were poor and didn't have wagons or horses. The men at the meeting said they would help the poor Saints move.



The Saints began to leave Missouri in February 1839, when it was very cold. They were told that people in the state of Illinois might be friendly to them, so they traveled about 200 miles to western Illinois. Many of them went to the town of Quincy, where people were kind and gave them shelter, food, and jobs.



Governor Boggs and his friends were glad the Saints had left Missouri.



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CHAPTER 48

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# Joseph Smith Asks the President for Help

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March–November 1839



**J**oseph Smith wrote letters to the Saints while he was in Liberty Jail. He told them to write down the bad things the mobs had done to them. He said they should send what they had written to the leaders of the country.

Doctrine and Covenants 123:1–4, 6



Joseph told the Saints to write the names of the people who had hurt them. He said they should tell how their homes and farms had been destroyed.

Doctrine and Covenants 123:1–3



After Joseph and his friends had been in Liberty Jail for more than four months, some guards took them to another town for a trial. Joseph and his friends bought two horses from the guards. They gave the guards some clothing to pay for one horse and promised to pay for the other horse later.



One night some of the guards got drunk and went to bed. Another guard helped Joseph and his friends escape.

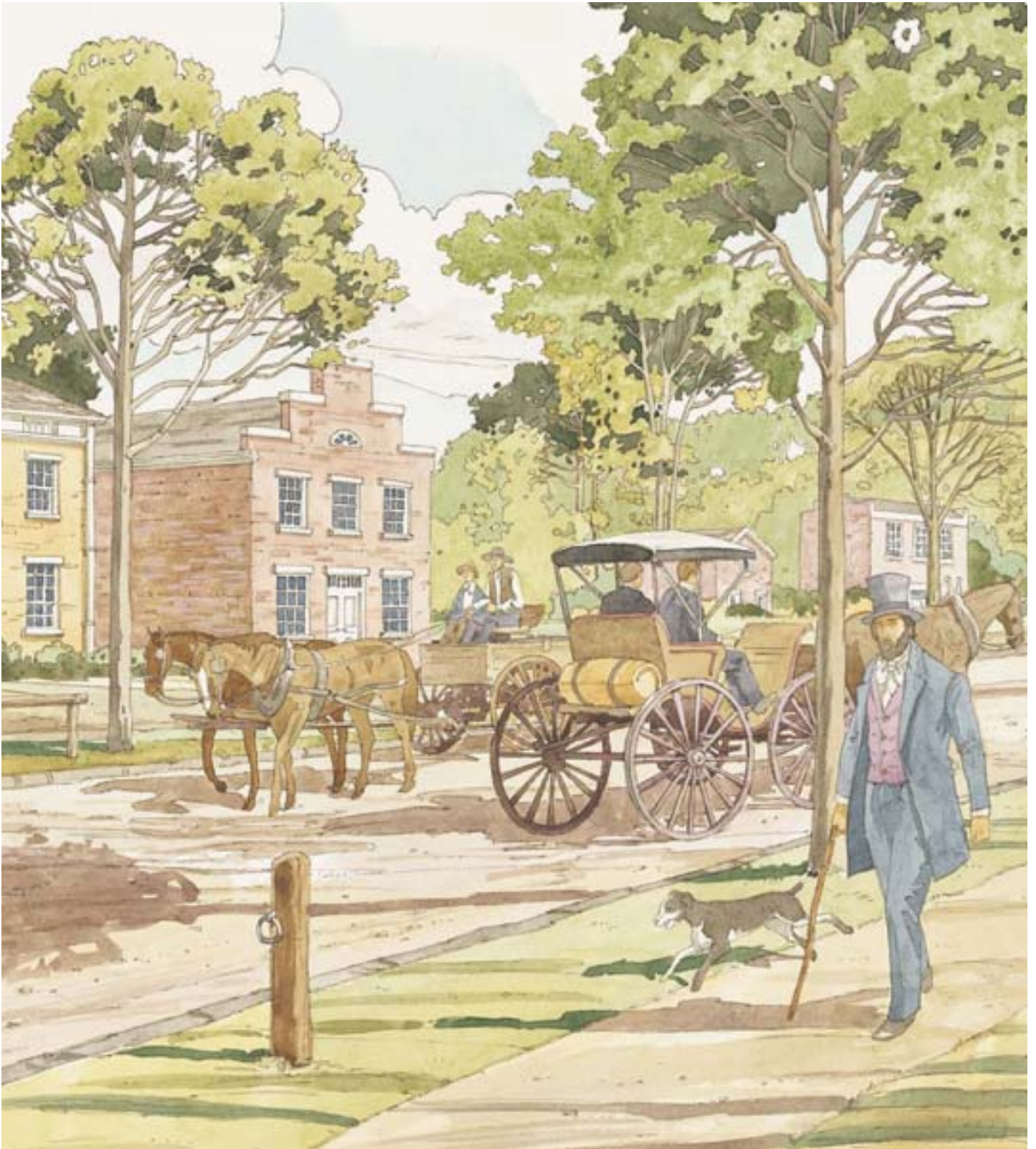


Joseph and his friends took turns riding the horses. After 10 days they arrived in Quincy, Illinois, where they found their families.



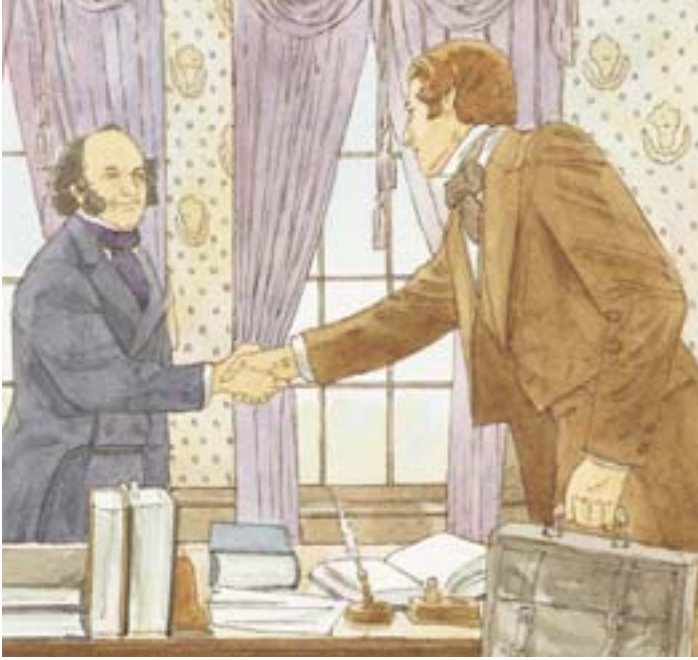
Joseph and his friends were happy to be with their families again.





The Saints wanted to find a place in Illinois to build their own city. They bought some wet and muddy land by the Mississippi River. Joseph and the Saints worked hard

to drain the land so they could build homes and plant gardens. They began to build a beautiful city, which they named Nauvoo. *Nauvoo* means beautiful.



While the Saints were starting to build Nauvoo, Joseph Smith went to see the president of the United States. Joseph told the president about the mobs in Missouri. He told how the mobs had burned the Saints' homes, stolen their animals, and forced them off their land.



Joseph said some of the Saints had been killed. Others had been put in jail. He showed the president what the Saints had written about the bad things that had been done to them. Joseph said the leaders in Missouri would not help the Saints. He asked the president to help them.



The president said he knew the Saints had suffered, but he would not do anything to help them. If he helped the Saints, the people in Missouri would be angry.



Joseph was sad because the president would not help the Saints. He returned to Nauvoo.



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CHAPTER 49

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# Missionaries in Other Lands

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June 1837–October 1841



The Lord wanted people in other lands to learn about the gospel. In 1837, while many of the Saints were in Kirtland, the Lord told Joseph Smith that Elder Heber C. Kimball should go on a mission to England. Elder Kimball was one of the Twelve Apostles, and he and six other missionaries sailed to England on a ship.



The missionaries met a leader of another church who let them preach in his church. Many of the people believed the missionaries and wanted to be baptized. The leader became angry and said the missionaries could not preach in his church anymore.



The missionaries preached in the homes of the people. Many of the people joined the Church.



In 1839, after the Saints had begun building Nauvoo, the Twelve Apostles were called to go to England to continue preaching the gospel there. Before they went, Joseph Smith met with them and told them what they should teach.

Doctrine and Covenants 118:4



Joseph told the missionaries to obey God's commandments. He talked to them about the priesthood. He said that only the true Church of Jesus Christ has the priesthood.



The men were ready to go on their missions. It was hard to leave because they didn't have much money, many of them were sick, and some of their wives and children were sick. But the men had faith that Heavenly Father would help them and would bless their families.



The missionaries went to England and preached in many towns. Thousands of people believed the gospel and joined the Church. Many of those who were baptized came to America and were a great strength to the Church.



Orson Hyde was one of the Apostles. Joseph Smith said Orson had special work to do for the Jewish people. After several months in Europe, Elder Hyde went to the Holy Land, which is where Jesus lived while He was on earth. On 24 October 1841, Elder Hyde said a prayer to dedicate the Holy Land.



In his prayer, Elder Hyde asked God to bless the land for the gathering of the Jews. He said that God had given this land to Abraham and his children, that these children were scattered, and that they looked forward to the fulfillment of God's promises. Elder Hyde also blessed the land so it would have water so food would grow.



In the years since Elder Hyde's prayer, many Jews and other children of Abraham have gathered in the Holy Land. In 1979, President Spencer W. Kimball said a prayer

to dedicate a garden there. It is called The Orson Hyde Memorial Garden.



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CHAPTER 50

# The Saints in Nauvoo

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January–July 1841



The Saints were building Nauvoo into a beautiful city. The city grew quickly as new members of the Church gathered there from England and other areas. Jesus gave Joseph Smith an important revelation about what the Saints should do in Nauvoo.

Doctrine and Covenants 124



Jesus told Joseph Smith to write a letter telling all the kings and leaders in the world about the restored gospel. Jesus also said the Saints should build a temple in Nauvoo. He wanted them to bring gold, silver, other metals, and many kinds of beautiful wood to build the temple.

Doctrine and Covenants 124:1–8, 26–27



Jesus said He would come to the temple. There He would give revelations about the priesthood. He would also restore ordinances and reveal more knowledge.

Doctrine and Covenants 124:27–31, 40–41



Jesus told Joseph that the Saints could be baptized for people who had died. Jesus said the Saints should build a baptismal font in the temple where they could be baptized for the dead.

Doctrine and Covenants 124:29–37



Jesus also revealed that Hyrum Smith, Joseph’s brother, should be the patriarch of the Church. As patriarch, Hyrum would give special blessings to Church members.

Doctrine and Covenants 124:91–92



Jesus also gave Joseph Smith a revelation about Brigham Young. Jesus said He knew that Brigham had worked hard for the Church. He had left his home and family many times to serve missions.

Doctrine and Covenants 126:1–2



Jesus told Brigham Young that he should stay with his family and take special care of them.

Doctrine and Covenants 126:3



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CHAPTER 51

# The First Endowments

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May 1842



Jesus promised Joseph Smith that He would give the Saints a special blessing. This blessing is called an endowment. The endowment is given in the temple. Only men and women who obey God's commandments can receive the endowment.

Doctrine and Covenants 105:12, 18, 33; 110:9; 124:40–41



Later, Joseph Smith had a meeting with some of the men and their wives. He taught them the things they would do in the temple. Then endowments were given to all of them.



Church members who obey God's commandments can go to the temple and receive the special blessing of the endowment. As part of the endowment, they make covenants with God, and He makes covenants with them.





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CHAPTER 52

# The Relief Society

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March 1842



The Saints were building the temple in Nauvoo. The men's clothes were wearing out, and the women wanted to help them. One woman said she would make clothes for the men, but she didn't have money to buy cloth.



Sarah Kimball said she would give the woman some cloth. Sister Kimball also asked other women to help. The women had a meeting in Sister Kimball's home and decided to start a society for women in the Church.



The women asked Eliza R. Snow to write some rules for the society. She took the rules to Joseph Smith. He said the rules were good, but he also said the Lord had a better plan for the women.



Joseph Smith asked the women to come to a meeting. He said priesthood leaders would help the women with

their society. Emma Smith was chosen to be the leader of the women. They called their group the Relief Society.



Joseph Smith told the women to help people who were sick or poor. They should give people any help they needed. The bishop would help the women know what to do.



The women had meetings to learn the things they needed to know. They were very glad they could help the members of the Church.



The women made clothes for the men who were building the temple. They also made items to be used in the temple.



The women took food to people who needed it. They took care of people who were sick and did many other things to help the Saints.



All women in the Church belong to the Relief Society. They help people. They learn about the gospel. They learn about good books, music, and art. They learn how

to strengthen their families. (Source for this chapter: *History of Relief Society, 1842–1966* [1967].)

# Map 3: Nauvoo, Council Bluffs, and Winter Quarters





CHAPTER 53

# Trouble in Nauvoo

May–August 1842



Thousands of Saints went to live in Nauvoo. They built a beautiful city and started to build a temple.



The Saints chose John C. Bennett to be the mayor of Nauvoo. At first he was a good mayor, but then he began to do bad things and turned against Joseph Smith.



The people in Nauvoo wanted to have a special holiday, with the soldiers of the Nauvoo Legion marching in a parade.



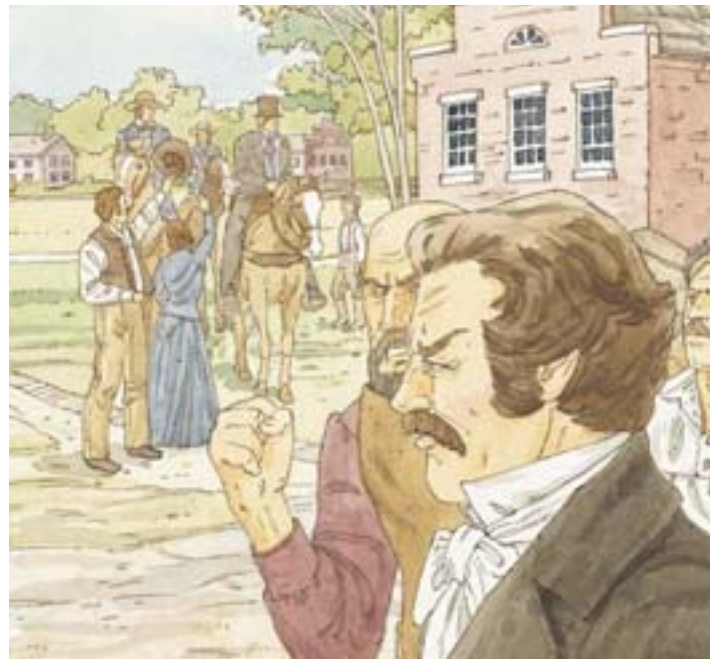
John Bennett decided that the soldiers should have a mock battle. That meant it would be a pretend battle, not a real one.



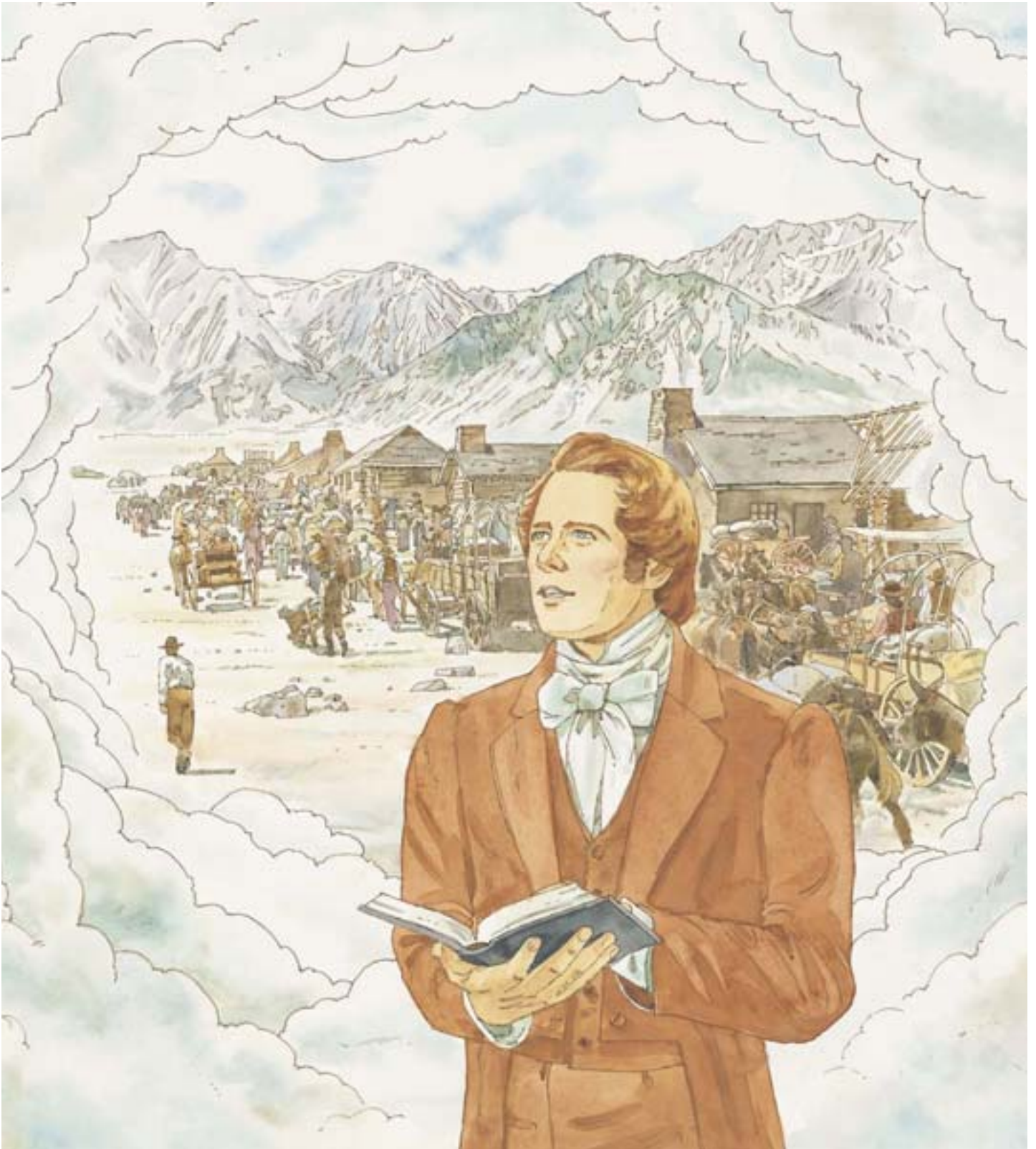
Mr. Bennett asked Joseph Smith to lead one group of soldiers in the battle, but Joseph wouldn't do it. The Holy Ghost had told Joseph that John Bennett was planning to use the battle to have him killed. John Bennett was angry.



Because John Bennett had turned against the Prophet and done other bad things, he was excommunicated from the Church and was no longer the mayor of Nauvoo. Joseph Smith became the new mayor.



John Bennett became bitter. He left Nauvoo and began to say and write bad things about Joseph Smith and the Church. He also got other people to join him.



Joseph Smith told some of the men of the Church that the Saints would have more trouble. Someday they would have to leave Nauvoo. Joseph foresaw that they

would go to the Rocky Mountains and build cities there. They would obey God and become a strong people.





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CHAPTER 54

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# God and Angels

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February–April 1843



One day a man who said he had seen an angel came to see Joseph Smith. The man told Joseph how the angel was dressed. Joseph said the man had not really seen an angel because angels do not dress the way the man had described.



The man was very angry. He commanded fire to come down from heaven to burn the Prophet and his house.

But the man did not have the power of God, and no fire came down from heaven.



Jesus gave Joseph Smith a revelation about angels. Jesus said that angels are people who have lived on

earth, died, and been resurrected. They have bodies of flesh and bones.

Doctrine and Covenants 129:1



Jesus said Satan tries to trick people. Sometimes he makes people think he is an angel. He tries to get the people to

do bad things. But righteous people are able to know when Satan is trying to trick them.

Doctrine and Covenants 50:3; 129:8



Later, Joseph Smith told the Saints other truths about heaven. He said that angels do not live on a planet like the earth. Instead, they live with God. Joseph also said

that people in heaven will know everything they learned on earth.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:6–7, 18



Joseph Smith said that all of God's laws were made in heaven before we came to earth. There is a blessing for each law. We must obey the law to receive the blessing.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:20–21



Joseph Smith told the Saints about Jesus Christ and Heavenly Father. Jesus looks like a man and has a body of flesh and bones.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:22



Heavenly Father also has a body of flesh and bones. He lives in a beautiful, shining place.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:7, 22



Joseph Smith also said the Holy Ghost is a spirit. The Holy Ghost does not have a body of flesh and bones.

Doctrine and Covenants 130:22



CHAPTER 55

# A Revelation about Marriage

July 1843



Joseph Smith asked the Lord some questions about marriage. Jesus told him that a man and woman should be married by a man who has the priesthood. They should be married in the temple. If they obey God's commandments, they will be married forever.

Doctrine and Covenants 132:1–29



Righteous people who are married in the temple will live in the celestial kingdom of heaven. Their children who obey God will belong to them, and they will be an eternal family. They will live with God and will become like Him.

Doctrine and Covenants 132:1–29



Jesus also told Joseph about the history of marriage among His people who lived anciently.

Doctrine and Covenants 132:34–39



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CHAPTER 56

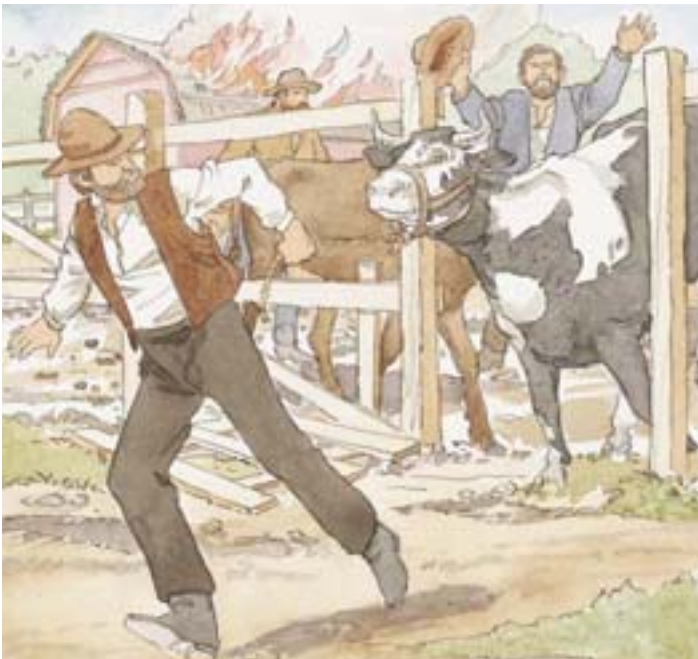
# More Trouble for the Saints

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1843–1844



Most of the people who lived near Nauvoo were not members of the Church. Many of them did not like the Saints and began to make trouble for them.



Some of the people gathered together in mobs. They stole the Saints' animals and burned their barns and homes. They tried to get the Saints to leave Nauvoo. The police and the soldiers would not stop the mobs. The governor would not help the Saints.



Joseph Smith had told the Saints in Nauvoo that they would have trouble. He knew that someday they would have to leave Nauvoo and go far away to a place where no one would bother them.



Joseph Smith had a meeting with the Apostles and some other men. He told them to find a place where the Saints could live if they had to leave Nauvoo.



Joseph looked at maps of the land. The maps showed a place where there were tall mountains and wide valleys. Joseph knew this would be a good place for the Saints.



Some people in Nauvoo who had been members of the Church turned against it. They hated Joseph Smith and wanted to kill him. They started a newspaper and wrote bad things about Joseph and the Saints.



City leaders in Nauvoo were angry about the newspaper. Because it published lies, these leaders felt they had legal authority to stop it. Some men went to the newspaper building and burned the newspapers and destroyed the printing press. This caused the enemies of the Church to be even more angry.



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CHAPTER 57

# The Prophet Is Killed

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June 1844



The enemies of the Church blamed Joseph Smith for the problems in Nauvoo, and they wanted him and other leaders to be arrested. But after Joseph was arrested, a judge said he had done nothing wrong and let him go.



The mobs were angry that Joseph Smith had been released. They threatened to attack Nauvoo. They even threatened to tar and feather one of the judges. Joseph asked the governor of Illinois to stop the mobs, but the governor believed the mobs' lies and would not help.



Joseph Smith knew he might be put in jail again, and he was afraid his brother Hyrum would also be put in jail. Joseph told Hyrum to take his family and go to another city, but Hyrum would not leave his brother.





Joseph Smith felt that if he and Hyrum left Nauvoo, the mobs would not hurt the Saints. They decided to go across the river and hide. Then they would go west to find another place for Church members to live.



Some people thought Joseph Smith was running away because he was afraid. Emma Smith, Joseph's wife, sent some friends to find him and ask him to come back. Joseph thought he would be killed if he returned to Nauvoo, but he did what his friends wanted him to do.



The day after Joseph and Hyrum returned to Nauvoo, they and other city leaders went to Carthage, a town about 20 miles away. In Carthage they were arrested on false charges, and Joseph, Hyrum, and some of their friends were put in jail until a trial could be held.



Joseph, Hyrum, and their friends were in jail for three days. During this time, mobs threatened them and said bad things about them. While in jail, Joseph and his friends prayed and read the Book of Mormon. John Taylor sang one of Joseph's favorite songs about Jesus.



By the afternoon of 27 June 1844, only Joseph, Hyrum, John Taylor, and Willard Richards were still in Carthage Jail. At about five o'clock, a mob of more than 100 men

stormed the jail. Some members of the mob shot at the windows, and others ran past the guard and up the stairs to the room where Joseph and his friends were.

Doctrine and Covenants 135:1



The brethren tried to keep the door shut, but there were too many people for them to defend themselves. The mob pushed open the door and shot Hyrum Smith. When Joseph saw that Hyrum was dead, he cried out,

“Oh, dear brother Hyrum!” The mob also shot John Taylor, who was seriously wounded but not killed. They did not shoot Willard Richards.

Doctrine and Covenants 135:1-2



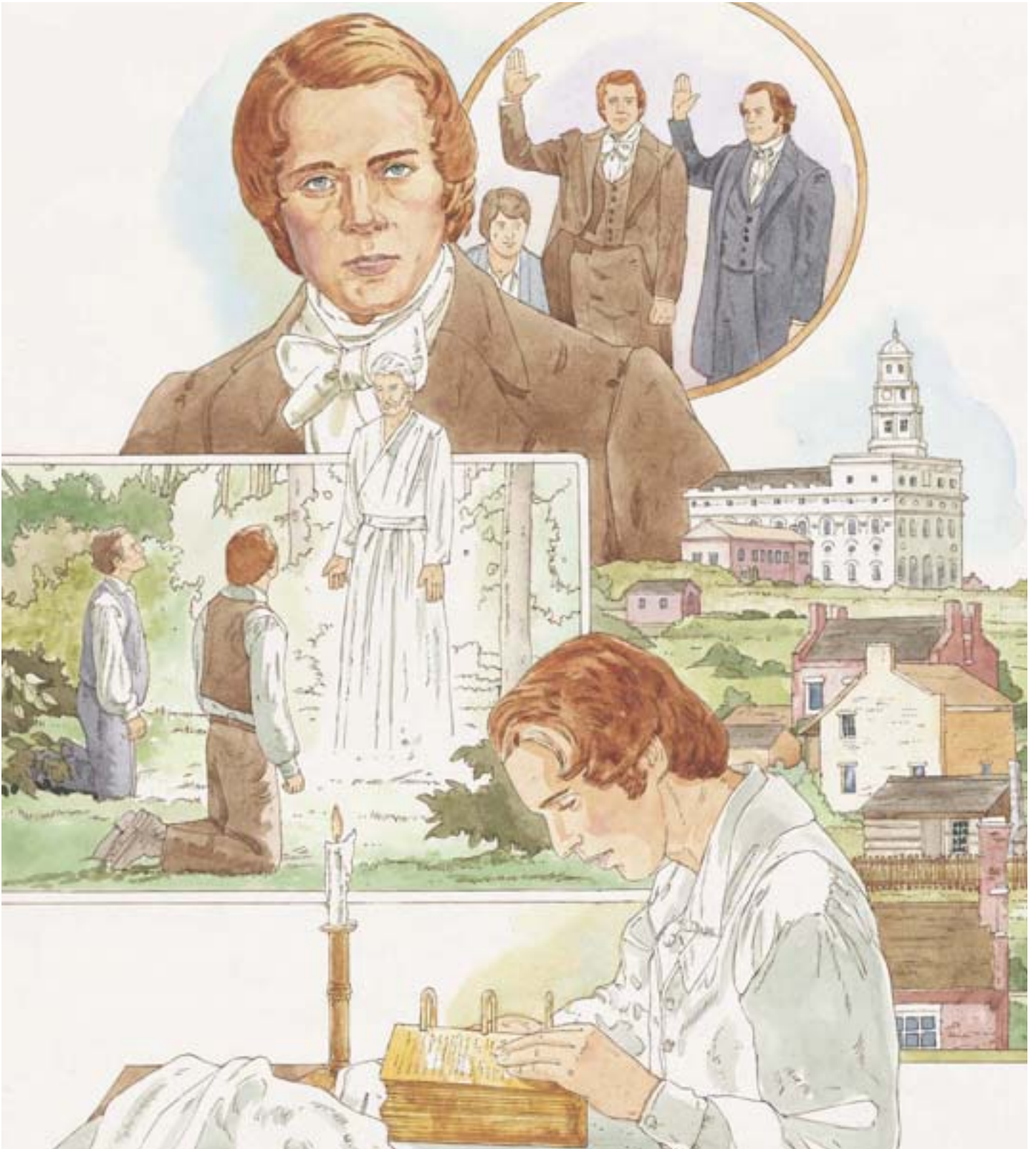
After Hyrum and John Taylor were shot, Joseph Smith ran to the window. He was hit by two bullets fired from the doorway of the room and a third bullet fired from outside

the jail. He cried, "O Lord my God!" and fell out the window. The Prophet was dead. He had given his life for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Doctrine and Covenants 135:1



The bodies of Joseph and Hyrum Smith were taken to Nauvoo, where they were buried. Their families and other members of the Church were very sad.



The Prophet Joseph Smith did much important work. He translated the Book of Mormon. Jesus restored His Church through him. Joseph Smith sent missionaries to teach the gospel in other lands. He led the Saints

in building a beautiful city. God loved Joseph Smith. The Saints also loved him. Joseph Smith did more for our eternal salvation than anyone except Jesus Christ.

Doctrine and Covenants 135:3



CHAPTER 58

# A New Leader for the Church

July–August 1844



After the Prophet Joseph Smith was killed, the Church did not have a President. The Saints were not sure who should be their leader.



Most of the Apostles were away on missions.



Sidney Rigdon had been Joseph Smith's counselor. But he had not obeyed the Lord and had moved away from Nauvoo.

Doctrine and Covenants 124:108–9



When Sidney Rigdon heard that Joseph Smith was dead, he came back to Nauvoo. He wanted to be the leader of the Church.

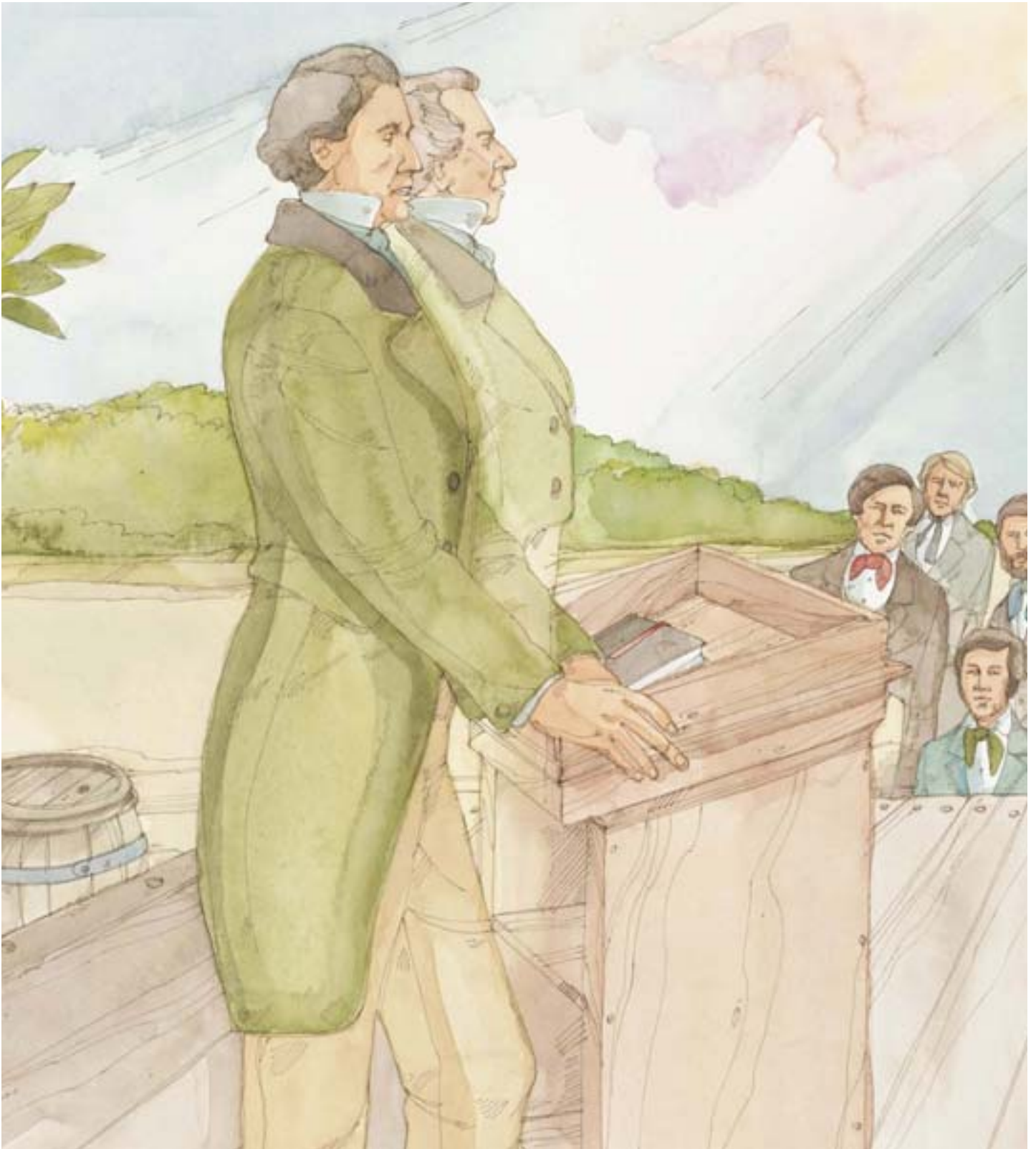


The Apostles who were away on missions also came back to Nauvoo when they learned of Joseph's death. Brigham Young was the leader of the Apostles. He said the Lord had given the Apostles the authority to lead the Church until a new President was chosen.

Doctrine and Covenants 107:24



The members of the Church had a meeting. First Sidney Rigdon spoke to them and said he should be the leader of the Church.



Then Brigham Young spoke and said the Apostles should lead the Church. The Holy Ghost was with him. Brigham Young's voice sounded like Joseph Smith's voice, and to some people he even looked like Joseph Smith. The Saints knew that God had chosen the Apostles to lead

the Church, and they all voted to accept the Apostles as their leaders. Sidney Rigdon was angry. He went back to his home and started a church of his own. He was no longer a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



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CHAPTER 59

# Endowments Are Performed in the Nauvoo Temple

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November 1845–February 1846



After the death of Joseph Smith, the Saints continued working on the Nauvoo Temple. The Lord had told them to build the temple, and they wanted to obey Him. The Saints did much of this work while they were being persecuted and knew they would soon have to leave Nauvoo.

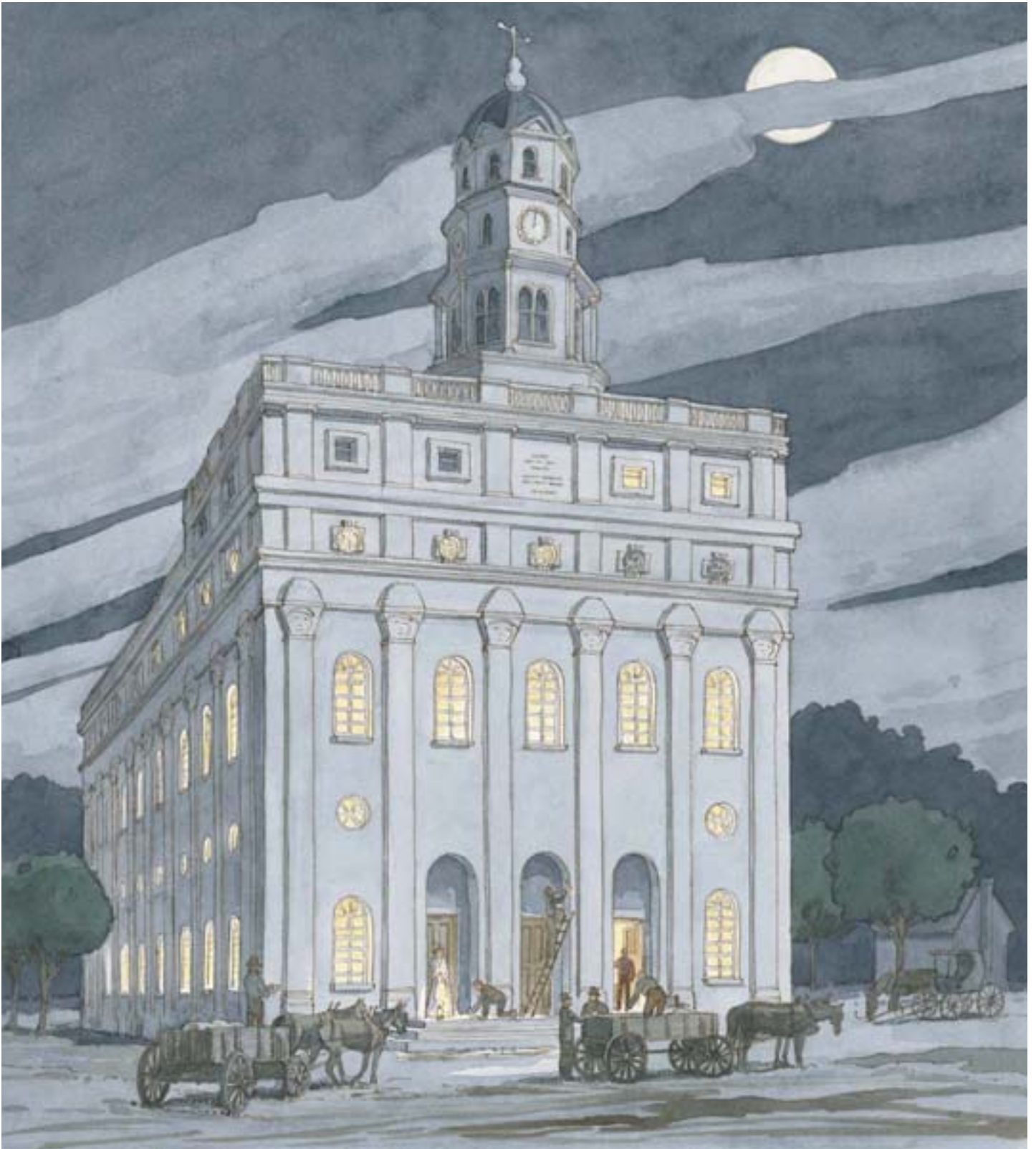
Doctrine and Covenants 124:31



As each part of the temple was finished, the Saints dedicated it and began using that part. Baptisms for the dead had been performed in the temple since 1841, when the basement was finished. In November 1845, several of

the upstairs rooms were finished and dedicated for the Saints to receive the sacred ordinance of the endowment (see also chapter 50).





The Saints were so eager to receive their temple ordinances that they used the temple day and night. During the last few weeks before the Saints left Nauvoo, Brigham Young and others gave all their time to helping them receive

these ordinances. By the time the Saints left, almost 6,000 of them had received their endowments in the Nauvoo Temple. These ordinances were a great blessing to them as they endured the difficult trials of the following years.



CHAPTER 60

# The Saints Leave Nauvoo

September 1845–September 1846



After the death of Joseph Smith, the mobs thought the Church would go away. But it remained strong under the leadership of the Apostles, and Nauvoo continued to grow. This caused the mobs to try even harder to destroy the Church and drive out the Saints. The mobs printed lies about them in newspapers.



The governor of Illinois would not stop the mobs. The Saints soon realized that they would not have peace unless they left Nauvoo. The governor suggested they move far away to the west, where they would be away

from their enemies and could set up their own government. Finally the Saints agreed to leave, but they needed time to get ready.



The Saints needed to get food and clothes for the journey. They also needed to make wagons, buy oxen and other animals, and sell their homes. The Saints worked hard to get ready to leave Nauvoo.



The mobs did not want to give the Saints time to get ready. They stole things and burned some of the homes.



The Saints planned to leave in April 1846, but threats from their enemies caused them to begin leaving in February, when it was very cold.



The Saints put their things in wagons. Then they drove the wagons onto flatboats and went across the Mississippi River.

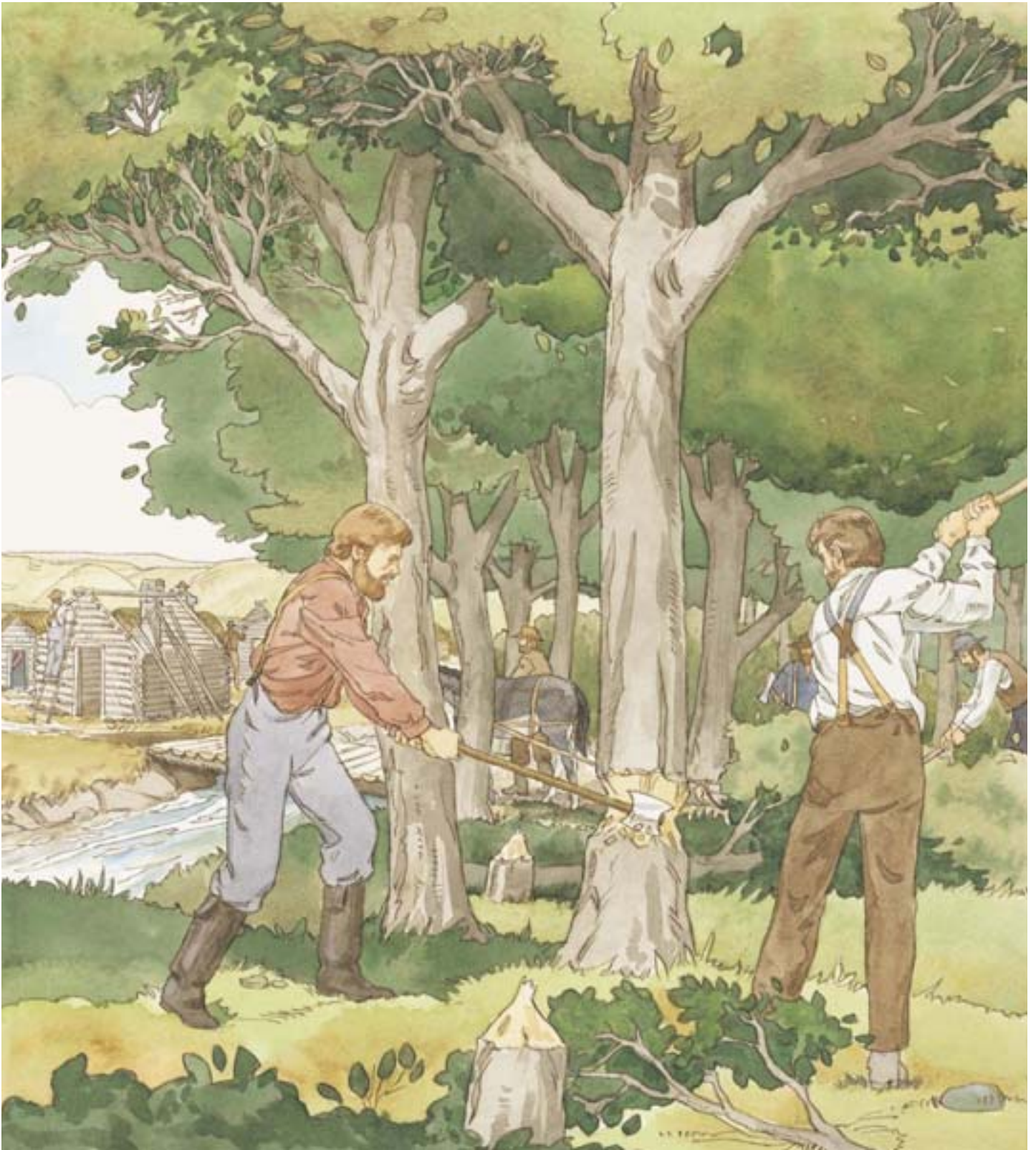


About two weeks after the first Saints left Nauvoo, it got so cold that the river froze over. Some of the Saints drove their wagons across the river on the ice.



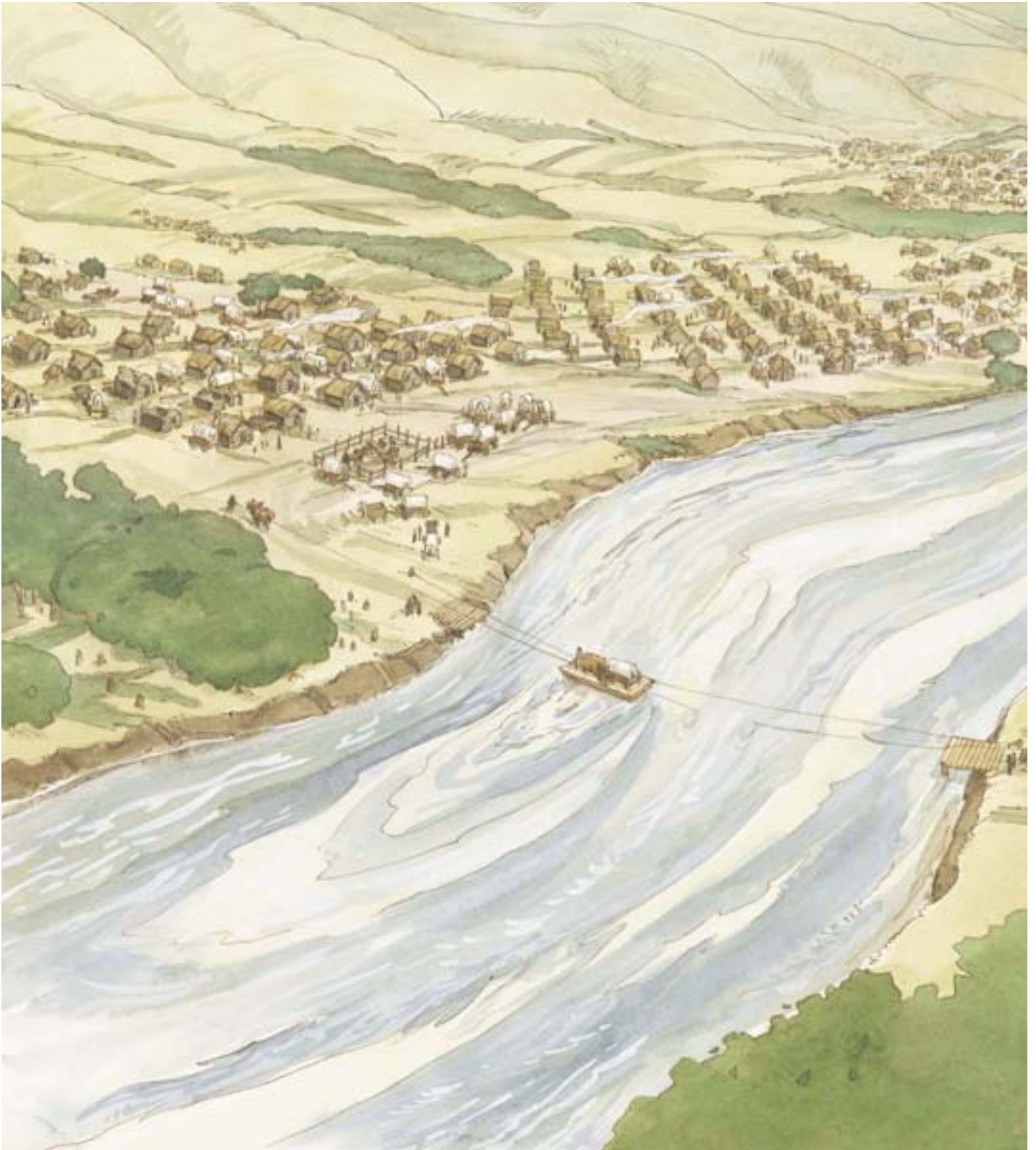
The Saints camped by the river for a few days. Some of them did not have enough clothes and were very cold. Some of them did not have enough food. Those who had enough food and clothes shared with others.

Soon the Saints moved and made another camp. Brigham Young chose leaders who helped the people get organized and prepared for the journey to the west. The Saints who were traveling to the west were called pioneers.



In March 1846 the pioneers began traveling west across Iowa. Their progress was slow because of bad weather, bad trails, and other problems. Brigham Young sent men ahead to find good places for other camps. These men

cut trees and made log cabins. They also planted crops and built bridges across streams. They made it easier for the pioneers to travel.



In June 1846, about four months after leaving Nauvoo, the first group of pioneers made it all the way across Iowa to the Missouri River. They stopped at a place called

Council Bluffs and built a ferryboat for crossing the river. Other Saints soon came to join them (see the map on page 190).



While many Saints had left Nauvoo in February 1846, many others stayed behind for a little longer. Some of them had been assigned to finish the temple. Others tried to sell some of the property. By September, most of the Saints had left the city.



As the Saints left Nauvoo, they looked back across the river and saw their beautiful city, with the temple on the hill. They were sad to leave, but they were happy they had finished the temple of the Lord.



Many of the Saints who left Nauvoo in the later months were too sick, poor, or unprepared to travel. Hundreds of them were scattered along the banks of the river and had little shelter or food. But the Lord helped them by sending flocks of small birds called quail, which the Saints were able to catch and eat.



When Brigham Young heard of the troubles of these Saints, he sent some men to rescue them. These men saved them from starvation and helped them travel to Council Bluffs and other places in Iowa where the Saints were camped.



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CHAPTER 61

# The Mormon Battalion

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June 1846–July 1847



While the Saints were in Iowa, Captain James Allen of the United States Army came to see Brigham Young. Captain Allen said the president of the United States wanted 500 men from the Church to join the army to help in a war with Mexico.



Although this was a difficult time for the Saints and the men were needed for the trek west, Brigham Young encouraged them to go. The money they would be paid would help their families, the Saints who were poor, and the missionaries. Serving in the army would also show the loyalty of Church members to their country.



Captain Allen talked to the men, and 541 of them joined the army. They were called the Mormon Battalion.





Brigham Young told the men to be the best soldiers in the army. They should take the Bible and Book of Mormon with them. They must be neat, clean, and polite. They

should not swear or play cards. Brigham Young told the men to obey God's commandments. If they did, they would not have to fight.



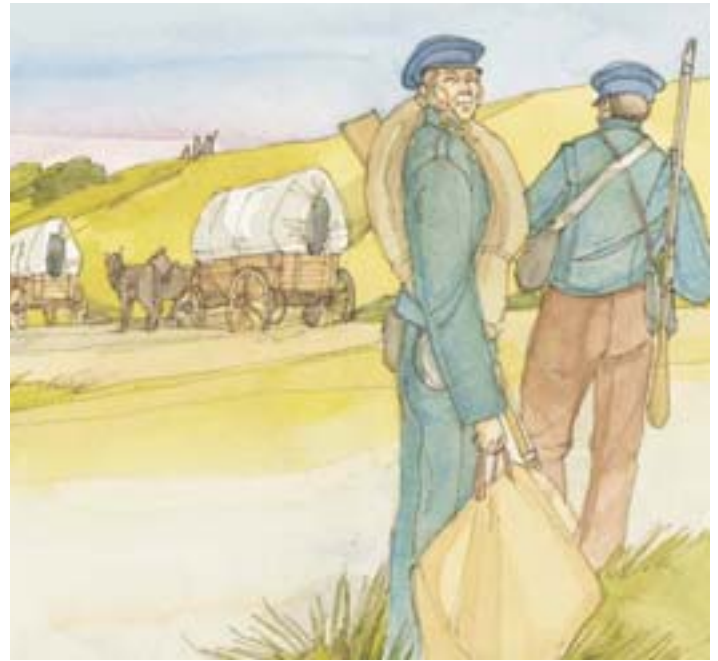
In July 1846 the men of the Mormon Battalion went with Captain Allen. It was hard for them to leave their wives and children at such a difficult time. But Brigham Young said their families would be taken care of while they were gone.



The Mormon Battalion went to Fort Leavenworth, where they received supplies. Then they traveled southwest toward California. The families of a few of the soldiers came with them.



It was very hard for the battalion to travel. The roads were very bad, and sometimes the wagons got stuck. It was hard to find water to drink. Sometimes there were no trees where the men could rest in the shade.



Some of the people got sick. The captain decided that the women and children, as well as the soldiers who were sick, should go to Colorado and stay in the town of Pueblo. They spent the winter there. The next summer they met up with the pioneers who were crossing the plains.



Most of the soldiers in the battalion kept marching. Sometimes they had to dig down into the sand to find water. They did not have enough food. Often there was no wood to make fires, so the men had to burn weeds.



The soldiers met Indians and other people who had food. The soldiers did not have money to buy food, so they traded some of their clothes to the Indians for food.



Eventually the Mormon Battalion came to some very steep mountains. The men had to tie ropes on the wagons and

pull them up the mountains. Then they let the wagons down the other side.



One day some wild bulls attacked the soldiers. The men fought the bulls and finally chased them away. Three of the soldiers were hurt.



At last, after marching more than 2,000 miles, the Mormon Battalion reached the Pacific Ocean on 29 January 1847.

The men were very tired, and their clothes were ragged. They were glad their long march had ended.



The men worked in California to finish their year of service in the army. Then they were allowed to go rejoin their families. As Brigham Young had promised, the men of the Mormon Battalion did not have to fight.



Some of the men stayed in California. Most of them went to the Rocky Mountains to be with their families and the other Saints who were arriving there. (See the map on page 234 for the route of the Mormon Battalion.)



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CHAPTER 62

# The Saints Establish Winter Quarters

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1846–1847



The Saints had hoped that some of them could make it to the Rocky Mountains in 1846. But Brigham Young realized they should wait until the next year. They needed to get better prepared. They also needed strong men for the journey, and many of the men were with the Mormon Battalion.



Some Indians agreed to let the Saints use some land across the river from Council Bluffs. In September the Saints began building a town there, which they called Winter Quarters (see the map on page 190). They planted crops and built over 700 homes.



Brigham Young divided Winter Quarters into wards and chose men to be bishops to watch over the members of each ward. The pioneers built a fence around the town for protection.



While the Saints were in Winter Quarters, the Lord gave Brigham Young a revelation concerning the journey to the west. The Lord told Brigham what the Saints should do to get ready and what they should do as they traveled.



The Lord said the people should be divided into small groups, each with a leader. The people should obey their leaders. They should help each other, especially the poor, the widows, and those who did not have fathers.

Doctrine and Covenants 136:1–4, 8



The Lord said each group should have its own wagons and food. Each group should also have people who knew how to fix the wagons, build bridges, build homes, and plant crops.

Doctrine and Covenants 136:5, 7



The Lord told the Saints they should keep His commandments. They should not fight. They should say good things about each other, not bad things. They should be honest and give back things they borrowed or found.

Doctrine and Covenants 136:21–26, 42



The Lord wanted the pioneers to be happy. He told them to sing, dance, and pray together. He promised to help them if they were sad or afraid. He said their trials would

help them be prepared to receive the great blessings He had for them.

Doctrine and Covenants 136:28–31



Brigham Young did what the Lord told him to do. He divided the people into groups. Each group had everything it would need to build a city in the mountains.



The months the pioneers spent at Winter Quarters were very difficult. They suffered greatly from disease, hunger, and cold, and more than 700 of them died. Despite their trials, they remained strong in their faith and worked hard to get ready for their journey.



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CHAPTER 63

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# The Pioneers Go to the Salt Lake Valley

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April–July 1847



The first group of pioneers left Winter Quarters in April 1847 to begin the journey west. Led by Brigham Young, the group had 143 men, 3 women, and 2 children.



During the first of the journey, the land the pioneers crossed was mostly flat and was covered with tall grass.

This kind of land is called a plain. Indians lived on the plains. There were no cities or farms.





Everyone had a job to do on the way. The women took care of the children and cooked the food. The men made trails, built bridges, repaired wagons, and hunted for food.



The pioneers traveled all day. At night they put their wagons in a circle and camped. The people and animals stayed inside the circle. They built fires and cooked their food.



Often the pioneers danced and sang. One of the songs they loved was "Come, Come, Ye Saints." Singing it helped them have courage to face their challenges. Brigham Young told the Saints to rest and to worship God on Sundays. The Saints prayed, studied the scriptures, and held sacrament meeting.



Each morning at five o'clock, a man would blow a bugle to tell the pioneers it was time to get up. They were to pray, eat breakfast, feed the animals, and be ready to go by seven o'clock.



The pioneers traveled for four months across the plains. They met a few other people on the way. Some of them were trappers who told Brigham Young not to go to the Rocky Mountains because it would be hard to grow crops there.



Other people told Brigham Young to take the Saints to California because the soil was rich and the weather was mild. But Brigham Young said the Lord had shown him where the Saints should go.



At last the pioneers came to the Rocky Mountains, where it was very hard to travel.



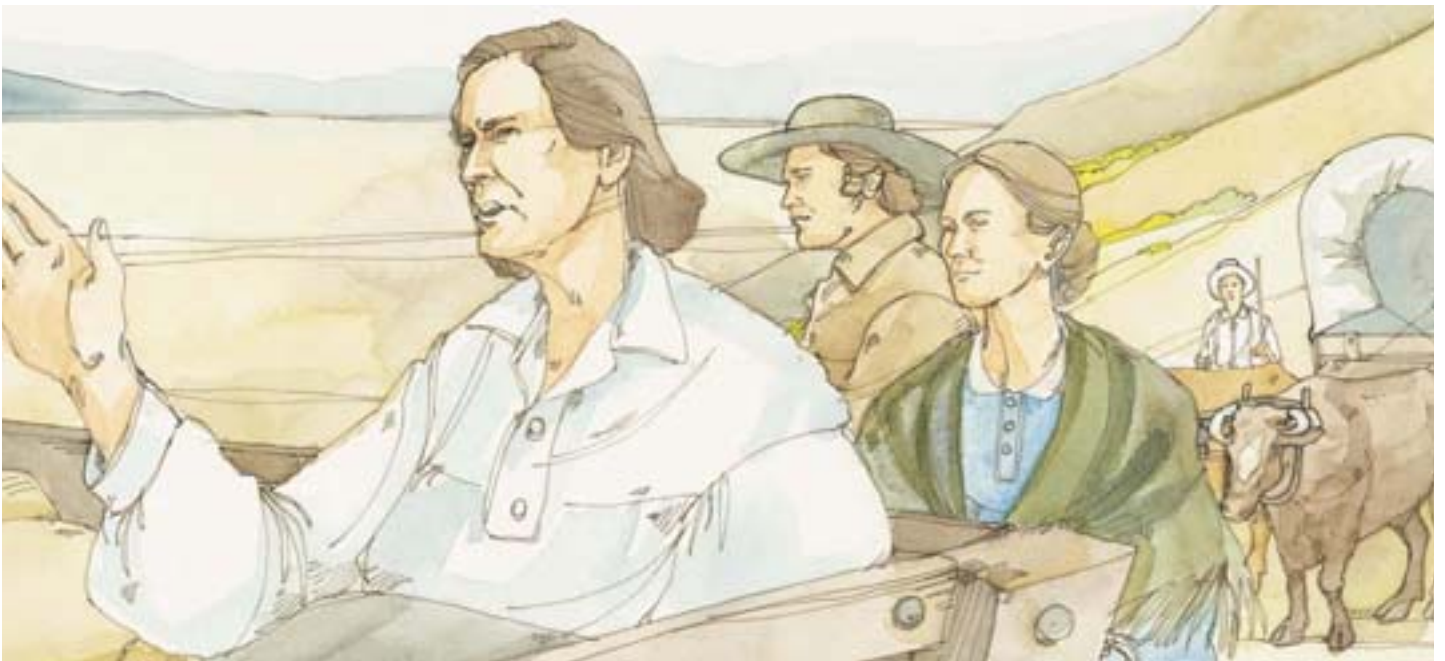
Brigham Young got sick and could not travel very fast. He chose some men to go ahead to the Great Salt Lake Valley and begin to plant crops.



The men took their wagons over the mountains. They went down into the valley and camped by a stream.



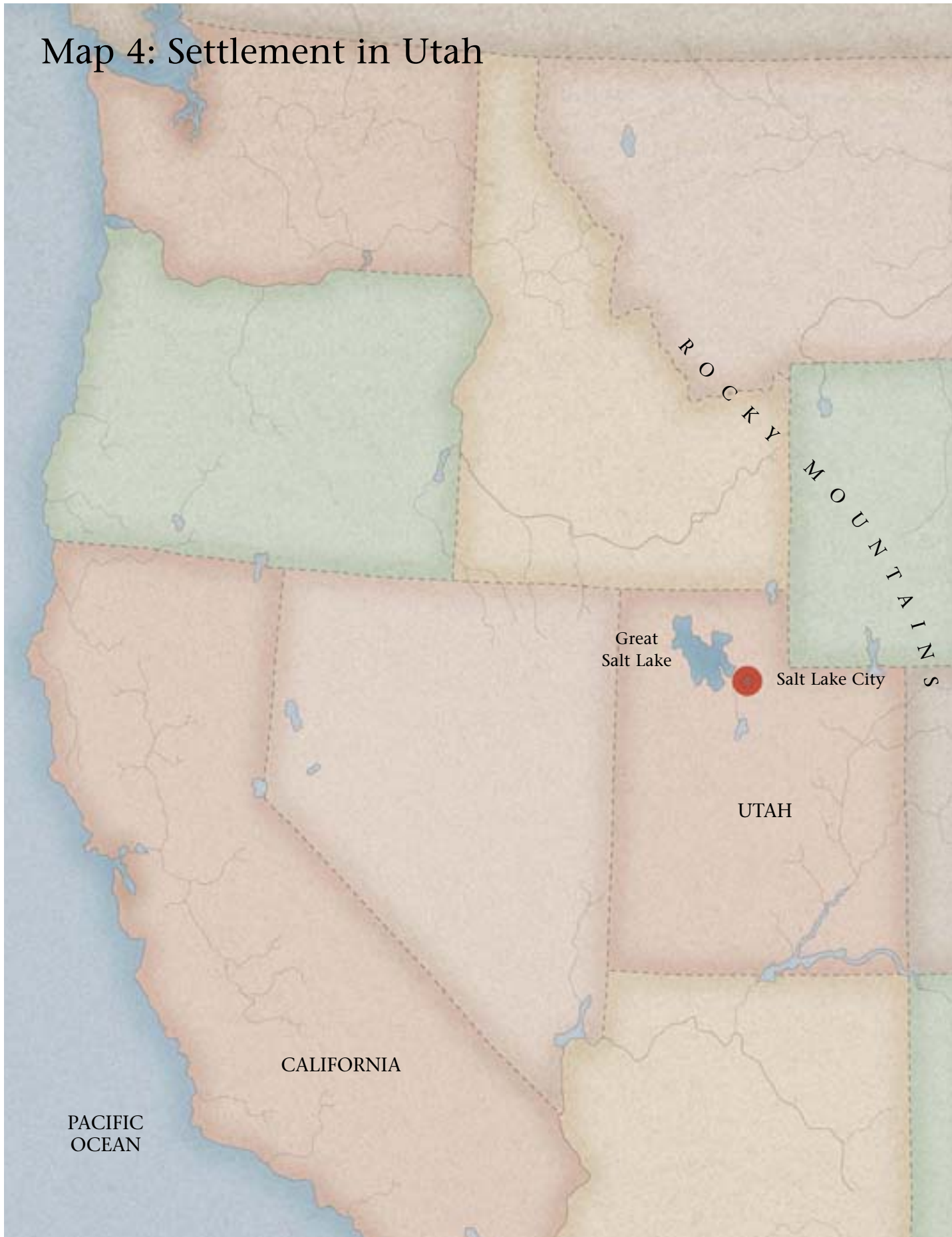
They dedicated the land and asked the Lord to bless the seeds they were going to plant. Then they planted the seeds.



Three days later, Brigham Young and the rest of his group came out of the mountains and looked down on the valley. When Brigham Young saw it, he knew it was the place where the Lord wanted the Saints to live. He said, "This is the right place. Drive on." The Saints drove their wagons down into the valley. It was 24 July 1847.

After traveling 1,000 miles across the plains and mountains, the Saints had finally found a place where they could stay. They were grateful that God had led them to a place of peace and safety, even though they knew there would be many more challenges to overcome.

# Map 4: Settlement in Utah





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CHAPTER 64

# The Saints in the Rocky Mountains

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Beginning in July 1847



The pioneers began to build a city in the Great Salt Lake Valley. They named it Salt Lake City. Brigham Young chose a place to build the temple.



Brigham Young and other leaders laid out plans for the city. Each family was given some land for a house and a farm. The pioneers built log houses and planted crops. They knew it would take great faith and hard work to settle here, but they believed they could succeed with God's help.



Brigham Young divided the city into five wards, and the people began to build churches. As more pioneers crossed the plains and came to the valley, more wards were organized.



The pioneers started a school. School classes and Church meetings were in the same building. Later the Sunday School was started.

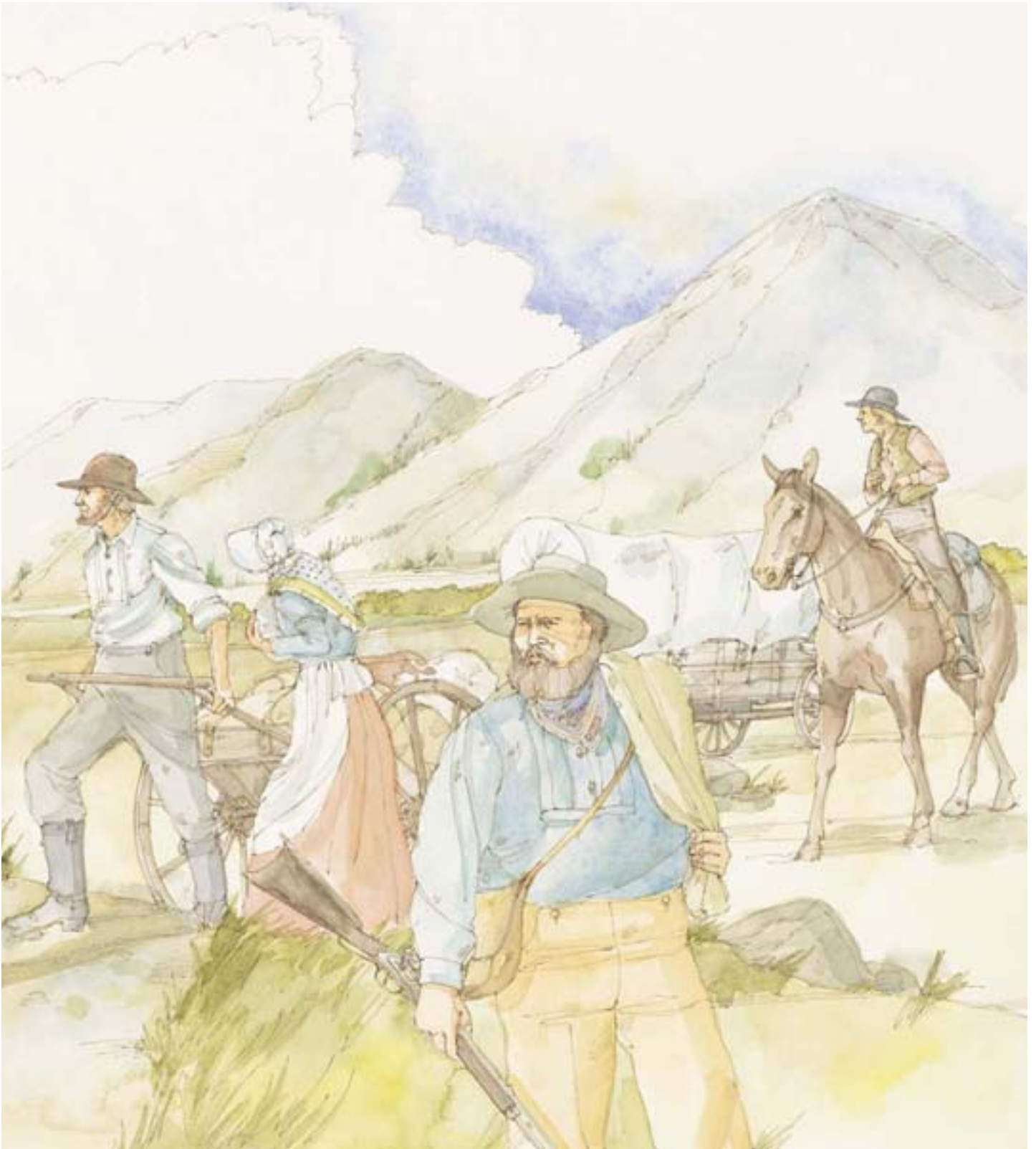


Brigham Young sent missionaries to other lands across the ocean. Thousands of people from many lands joined the Church.



Many people who joined the Church were encouraged to gather with the Saints in the Great Salt Lake Valley. They made great sacrifices to leave their homes, sail

across the ocean, and travel across America to the Salt Lake Valley.



Most of the pioneers crossed the plains in covered wagons, which were pulled by animals. Others did not have money to buy wagons or animals, so they made small carts with two wheels. These were called handcarts. The pioneers put

all their things in the carts, then pushed and pulled the carts across the plains. It was very hard work to cross the plains. Some of the people got sick and died.



Brigham Young was a wise leader. He sent the Saints to build towns in many parts of the west, including Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, and California.



The Saints had many trials. Sometimes their crops would not grow because it was too cold or too hot and dry. Sometimes insects would eat their crops. But the Saints prayed and had faith, and God helped them through their trials.



Some Indians were living in the area when the Saints arrived. Sometimes there were problems between the Saints and the Indians. Brigham Young told the Saints to be kind. Many of the Indians became their friends, and some became members of the Church.



The Saints started to build temples, just as they had done in Kirtland and Nauvoo. In 1853 they started to build a temple in Salt Lake City. They worked 40 years to finish it. They built other temples in the towns of St. George, Logan, and Manti before the Salt Lake Temple was finished.



# Map 5: Movement of the Saints in Early Church History







CHAPTER 65

# The Church of Jesus Christ Today



Many years have passed since the Church was started in Fayette, New York. The Church has grown much bigger in those years. In 1830 it was started with only six members.



Since 1830, missionaries have gone throughout the world to teach the gospel. People have listened to the missionaries and joined the Church. Today millions of Church members live all over the world. They speak

many languages. Although the members live in different places, the Church is the same. The people are happy to be members of the Church.



Living prophets continue to lead The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They receive revelation from Jesus.



As Church members follow the prophets, they become better, happier people. They have stronger homes and families. They share the gospel with others. They help their neighbors and others in need.



Members of the Church also follow the prophets by going to the temple. The Church has built temples all over the world. Members go to the temple to learn how to become more like Jesus. They receive sacred ordinances and make covenants with God. The temple is the only place where members can be married for time and eternity.

We are blessed in many ways by being members of the Lord's Church. We should be grateful for these blessings. We can show our gratitude by obeying God's commandments and serving others.



# Words to Know

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**adopted** Joseph and Emma Smith adopted twin babies. This means Joseph and Emma made the twin babies part of their family.

**alcohol** Alcohol is not good for us to drink. Beer and wine have alcohol in them.

**ancestors** Our ancestors are the people in our family who lived before us.



**angel** An angel is one of God's helpers. The angel Moroni talked to Joseph Smith.

**Apostle** An Apostle is a leader in the Church of Jesus Christ. Jesus told Joseph Smith He wanted twelve Apostles.

**arrested** The soldiers arrested Joseph Smith. This means the soldiers caught him and put him in jail.

**attacked** The mob attacked the Saints. This means the mob began to fight the Saints.

**baptismal font** There are baptismal fonts in churches and temples. People are baptized in a baptismal font.

**baptized** When we join the Church, we are baptized. We are put down under the water and brought up again.

**beautiful** When something is beautiful, we like to look at it. A garden is beautiful. The temple is beautiful.

**believe** To believe means to think something is true. Many people believe the gospel of Jesus Christ.

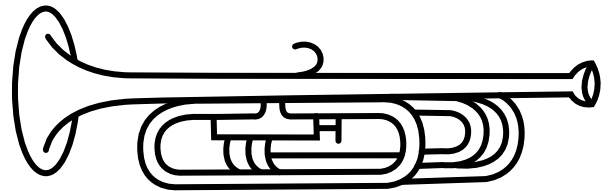
**bishop** A bishop is the leader of a ward.

**blamed** The people blamed Joseph Smith for the trouble. This means the people said Joseph Smith made the trouble happen.

**borrow** When we borrow something, we ask someone if we can use it. If a man borrows his friend's horse, he asks his friend if he can use it. After the man uses the horse, he returns it to the friend.

**bragged** The guards in the jail bragged about what they had done. This means they were happy about it and told others about it.

**bridge** The pioneers crossed the river on a bridge.



**bugle** A bugle is a kind of horn.

**buried** Moroni buried the gold plates. He put them in a stone box in the ground and covered them up.

**captain** A captain is a leader. Captain Allen was the leader of the soldiers.

**captured** The soldiers captured Joseph Smith. This means the soldiers caught Joseph Smith and would not let him go.

**choices** Heavenly Father lets us make choices. This means Heavenly Father lets us decide what we will do.

**choose** God lets us choose to be good or bad. We choose people to be leaders. God chose Brigham Young to lead the Saints.

**commandments** Good people obey God's commandments. Good people do what God wants them to do.

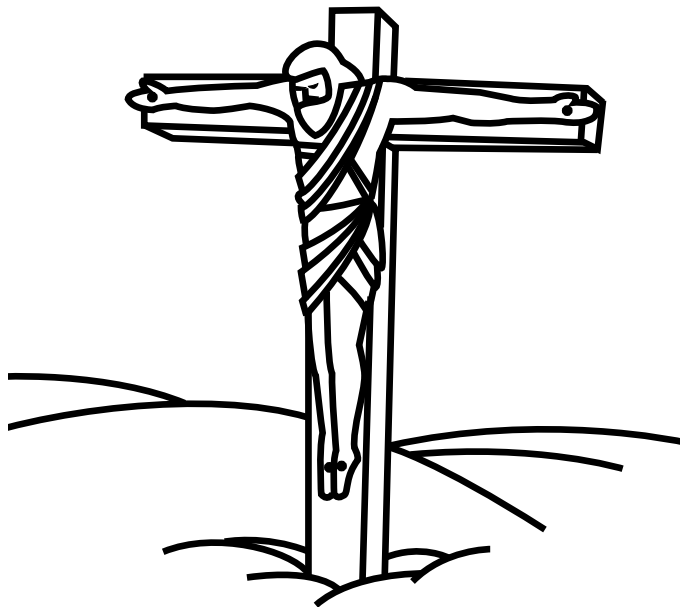
**conference** A conference is a large meeting. Many members of the Church go to conference.

**counselors** Counselors are people who help a leader. The prophet of the Church has counselors.

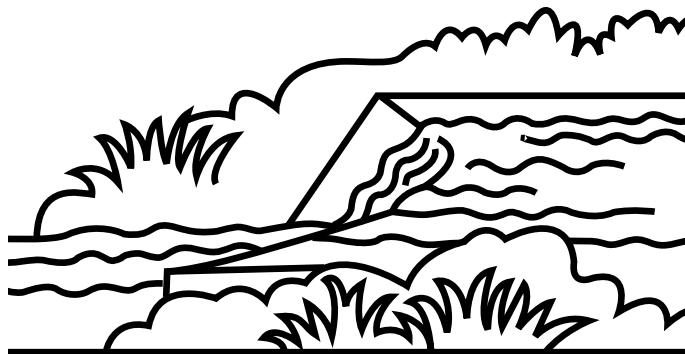
**covenant** A covenant is a promise. When we make a covenant with God, we promise Him that we will do something.

**created** Jesus Christ created the earth. This means that Jesus Christ made the earth.

**crops** The pioneers planted crops. Crops include corn, potatoes, wheat, and other things.



**crucified** Jesus was crucified. This means He was nailed on a cross and left there until he died.



**dam** The Saints built a dam in the river. A dam holds back the water.

**deacons** Boys may be deacons when they are 12 years old. Deacons may pass the sacrament.

**decided** Emma and Joseph wondered whether to go to Pennsylvania or to stay in New York. They decided to go to Pennsylvania.

**dedicate** When we dedicate something, we bless it to be used for God's work. The Saints dedicated the temple.

**destroy** To destroy means to tear down, break, burn, or kill. The mobs destroyed the temple.

**disciple** A disciple is a person who follows Jesus and tries to be like Him.

**earn** To earn means to get something by working for it.

**elders** Elders are men who have the priesthood.

**endowment** An endowment is a special promise or gift from God.

**enemy** An enemy is a person who hates another person. Joseph Smith's enemies tried to kill him.

**escape** To escape means to get away from someone or something. Joseph Smith escaped from the mob.

**evil** Evil is something very bad. Satan is an evil spirit.

**evil spirits** Evil spirits are bad spirits. Evil spirits follow Satan.

**excommunicated** Members of the Church who do bad things can be excommunicated. They are no longer members of the Church.

**faith** To have faith is to hope for things that are not seen that are true. We have faith in Jesus Christ. This means we believe in Him and obey Him.

**fast** To fast is to go without food or water.

**forever** Forever means always. We can live with Heavenly Father forever if we obey His commandments.

**forgive** To forgive means to forget the bad things someone has done. God will forgive us if we are sorry for the bad things we have done and try not to do them again.

**gather** To gather means to come together in one place. Joseph Smith told the Saints to gather in Missouri.

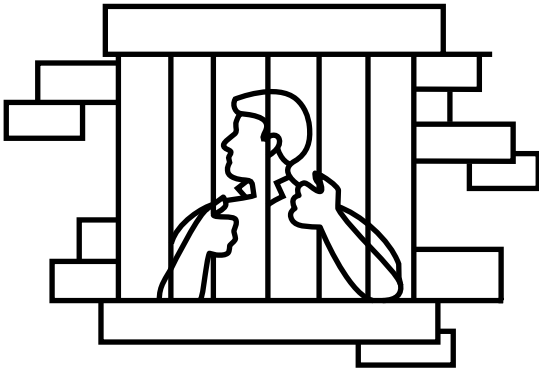
**gifts** Gifts are things that are given to people. The Holy Ghost gives spiritual gifts to people who are righteous.

**gospel** The gospel of Jesus Christ is the plan of salvation. It includes all the doctrines, ordinances, and authority for us to return to live with Heavenly Father.

**governor** A governor is the leader of a state.

**heal** To heal means to make sick people well. Newel K. Whitney blessed Joseph Smith, and Joseph was healed.

**honest** People who are honest do not tell lies. Honest people do not take things that do not belong to them.



**jail** The men were put in jail. This means they were locked up so they could not get away.

**joined** The people joined the Church. This means the people were baptized and became members of the Church.

**language** The words we use to write or talk to other people are called languages.

**lead** To lead people means to show or tell them what to do. The prophet leads the Church.

**married** Joseph and Emma were married. This means Joseph was Emma's husband, and Emma was Joseph's wife.

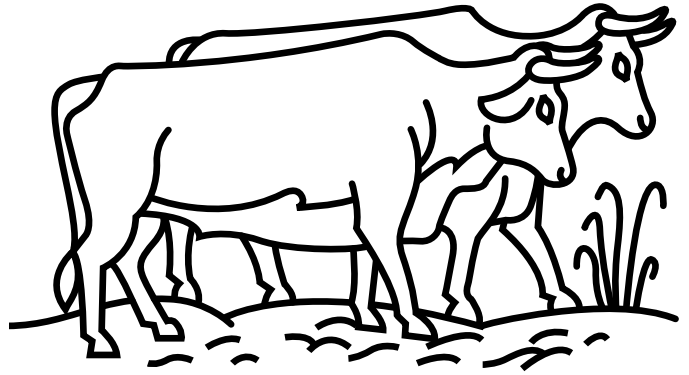
**mission** The Apostle went on a mission. This means he went to tell people about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**missionary** A missionary is a person who goes on a mission.

**obey** To obey means to do what we are told to do. We should obey God's commandments.

**ocean** An ocean is a very large body of salt water.

**ordained** To be ordained means to be given the priesthood. Joseph Smith ordained the man. This means Joseph Smith gave the man the priesthood.



**oxen** Oxen are animals.

**patriarch** A patriarch gives special blessings to people. Joseph Smith's father was a patriarch.

**poison** Poison is something that can kill people if they eat or drink it. The mob tried to make Joseph Smith drink poison.

**pray** To pray means to talk to Heavenly Father.

**preached** Joseph Smith preached to the people. This means he taught the people about the gospel.

**presidency** The presidency of the Church is the president and his counselors.

**president** A president is a leader.

**priesthood** The priesthood is the power of God.

**priests** Priests have the priesthood. Priests are men who help in the Church.

**printer** A printer is a man who prints books.

**prison** A prison is a place where people are put and cannot get out. A prison is like a jail.

**prophet** A prophet tells the people what God wants them to know. Joseph Smith was a prophet.

**protect** The men had guns to protect the people. This means the men had guns to keep the people safe. The Lord protected Joseph Smith. This means the Lord kept Joseph Smith safe.





**quail** A quail is a bird.

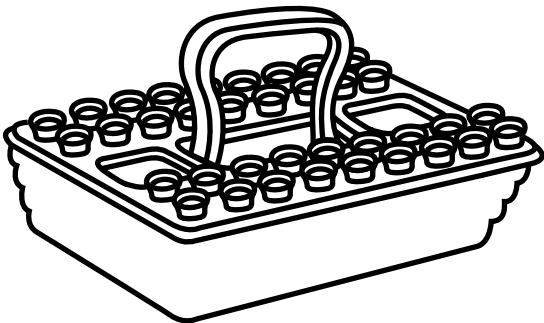
**repent** If we do something bad, we should repent. This means we feel sorry and try not to do the bad thing again.

**resurrected** Jesus Christ was resurrected. This means that after He was dead, He was made alive again. All people will be resurrected after they die.

**revelation** Communication from God to His children on earth is called revelation. Joseph Smith received a revelation about the temple.

**righteous** Righteous people do what is right. This means they obey God's commandments.

**Sabbath** The Sabbath is the day we go to church. We should not work on the Sabbath. Sunday is the Sabbath day.



**sacrament** We take the sacrament to remember Jesus.

**sacred** The temple is a sacred building. The temple belongs to God.

**Saint** A Saint is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ.

**save** Jesus died to save us. This means Jesus died so we could go back to live with Heavenly Father.

**scriptures** The scriptures are books that tell us about God. The Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price are the scriptures of the Church.

**share** To share means to give part of what we have to someone.

**soldiers** Soldiers fight in an army.

**spirit** A spirit does not have a body of flesh and bones.

**steal** To steal means to take something that is not yours. Mobs stole the Saints' animals. This means the mobs took the animals.

**suffer** We suffer when we are hurt. Joseph Smith and his friends suffered in jail.

**swear** To swear means to say bad words.

**swore** The guards in the jail swore. The guards in the jail said bad words.

**tar** Tar is sticky and black.

**temple** A temple is the house of God.

**tempt** Satan tries to tempt us. This means he tries to get us to do things that are bad.

**tithing** Tithing is money we give to God.

**tobacco** Tobacco is a substance that is not good for us. Some people smoke and chew tobacco.

**translated** Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon into English.

**truth** Jesus teaches people the truth. This means Jesus teaches people what is right.

**testimony** A testimony is a feeling that the gospel is true.

**trappers** Trappers are people who catch wild animals. They sell the animals' fur.

**vision** A vision is something that God lets us see. Joseph Smith saw Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ in a vision.

**witnesses** Witnesses see something and tell others about it. Witnesses saw the gold plates and told others the plates were real.

**worship** To worship means to love and obey. Satan wanted Moses to worship him. We should worship God.

**wound** A wound is a place where someone's body has been hurt or cut.

# Places to Know

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**Adam-ondi-Ahman** Adam-ondi-Ahman is a place in the state of Missouri. Jesus visited Adam there long ago.

**America** America is the land where the Book of Mormon people lived long ago.

**Arizona** Arizona is a state in the western United States. Brigham Young sent Saints to build towns in Arizona.

**California** California is a state in the western United States. Brigham Young sent Saints to build towns in California.

**Carthage** Carthage is a town in Illinois. Joseph and Hyrum Smith were killed in the Carthage Jail.

**celestial kingdom of heaven** The celestial kingdom of heaven is where Heavenly Father and Jesus live. Righteous Saints will live there after they are resurrected.

**Colorado** Colorado is a state in the western United States.

**Council Bluffs** Council Bluffs is a town on the plains of the United States. It is located in Iowa.

**Egypt** Egypt is a land where Abraham and Moses lived long ago.

**Far West** Far West was a town in the state of Missouri. The Saints lived in Far West for a while.

**Fayette** Fayette is a town in the state of New York. Joseph Smith organized the Church in Fayette.

**Garden of Gethsemane** The Garden of Gethsemane is near Jerusalem. Jesus suffered and bled for us in the Garden of Gethsemane.

**Great Salt Lake Valley** The Great Salt Lake Valley is in the western United States.

**Harmony** Harmony is a town in Pennsylvania where Joseph Smith lived.

**Haun's Mill** Haun's Mill was a town in Missouri. A mob killed many Saints in Haun's Mill.

**heaven** Heaven is the place where Heavenly Father and Jesus live. We lived in heaven before we came to earth.

**Hill Cumorah** The Hill Cumorah was near Joseph Smith's home in New York. The gold plates were buried in the Hill Cumorah.

**Idaho** Idaho is a state in the western United States. Brigham Young sent Saints to build towns in Idaho.

**Illinois** Illinois is a state in the midwestern United States. Nauvoo and Carthage are towns in Illinois.

**Independence** Independence is a city in Jackson County, Missouri. Jesus said the city of Zion would be built near Independence.

**Jackson County** Jackson County is in Missouri. The mobs made the Saints leave Jackson County.

**Jerusalem** Jerusalem is a city in Israel. Jesus will go to Jerusalem when he comes back to the earth.

**Kirtland** Kirtland is a town in Ohio. The early Saints lived in Kirtland for several years and built a temple there.

**Liberty** Liberty is a town in Missouri. Joseph Smith was in the Liberty Jail for several months.

**Mississippi River** Part of the Mississippi River is near the city of Nauvoo. The Saints crossed the Mississippi River when they left Nauvoo.

**Missouri** Missouri is a state in the midwestern United States. Independence is a city in Missouri.

**Nauvoo** Nauvoo is a city in Illinois. The Saints lived in Nauvoo and built a temple there.

**New York** New York is a state in the eastern United States. The Hill Cumorah is in New York. Palmyra and Fayette are towns in New York.

**Ohio** Ohio is a state in the midwestern United States. Kirtland is a town in Ohio.

**Pacific Ocean** The Pacific Ocean is on the western side of the United States. The Mormon Battalion marched to the Pacific Ocean.

**Palmyra** Palmyra is the town in New York where Joseph Smith's family lived for many years.

**Pennsylvania** Pennsylvania is a state in the eastern United States. Emma Smith's family lived in Pennsylvania.

**Pueblo** Pueblo is a city in Colorado. The men in the Mormon Battalion left their families in Pueblo.

**Quincy** Quincy is a town in Illinois.

**Rocky Mountains** The Rocky Mountains are in the western part of the United States. The pioneers crossed the Rocky Mountains and went into the Great Salt Lake Valley.

**Salt Lake City** The pioneers built Salt Lake City. It is in the Great Salt Lake Valley.

**telestial kingdom of heaven** People who are not good on earth will live in the telestial kingdom of heaven after they are resurrected.

**terrestrial kingdom of heaven** People who are good but do not obey all God's commandments on earth will live in the terrestrial kingdom of heaven after they are resurrected.

**United States** The United States is a land in North America. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was restored in the United States.

**Utah** Utah is a state in the western United States. Salt Lake City is in Utah.

**Vermont** Vermont is a state in the eastern United States. Joseph Smith was born in Vermont.

**Winter Quarters** Winter Quarters was a town on the plains of the United States.

**Wyoming** Wyoming is a state in the western United States. Brigham Young sent Saints to build towns in Wyoming.

**Zion** Zion was a city that Enoch built. Someday there will be another city named Zion. It will be in Jackson County, Missouri.

# People to Know

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**Abraham** Abraham was a prophet who lived long ago. The story of Abraham is in the Old Testament and the Pearl of Great Price.

**Bennett, John C.** John C. Bennett was a mayor of Nauvoo. He turned against Joseph Smith.

**Captain Allen** Captain Allen was a captain in the United States Army. He asked the men of the Church to be in the Mormon Battalion.

**Copley, Leman** Leman Copley was a Church member in Kirtland, Ohio, who wouldn't share his land with other members.

**Cowdery, Oliver** Oliver Cowdery helped Joseph Smith translate the gold plates. He did much work to help the Church.

**Elias** Elias restored special priesthood power to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple.

**Elijah** Elijah was a prophet who lived long ago. He restored special priesthood power to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple.

**Enoch** Enoch was a prophet who lived long ago. He built the city of Zion. The story of Enoch is in the Pearl of Great Price.

**Governor Boggs** Governor Boggs was the governor of Missouri. He would not help the Saints and issued an order to drive them from the state or kill them.

**Harris, Martin** Martin Harris helped Joseph Smith translate the gold plates. He lost some pages of the Book of Mormon.

**Hyde, Orson** Orson Hyde was an Apostle. He dedicated the Holy Land for the children of Abraham to have a place to live.

**Indians** Indians lived in all parts of the United States. Sometimes Indians are called Lamanites.

**James** James was one of Jesus' Twelve Apostles. Peter, James, and John restored the Melchizedek Priesthood to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.

**John** John was one of Jesus' Twelve Apostles. Peter, James, and John restored the Melchizedek Priesthood to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.

**John the Baptist** John the Baptist lived when Jesus lived on the earth. John the Baptist gave the Aaronic Priesthood to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.

**Kimball, Heber C.** Heber C. Kimball was an Apostle. He went on a mission to England.

**Kimball, Sarah** Sarah Kimball was a member of the first Relief Society.

**Kimball, Spencer W.** Spencer W. Kimball was the 12th President of the Church.

**Knight, Newel** Newel Knight became sick when Satan tried to stop him from praying. Joseph Smith healed Newel Knight.

**Lamanites** Lamanites are descendants of Lehi's sons Laman and Lemuel.

**Melchizedek** Melchizedek was a prophet who lived long ago.

**Mormons** Sometimes members of the Church are called Mormons because they believe in the Book of Mormon.

**Moroni** Moroni was a Nephite prophet who lived in America long ago. He buried the gold plates in the Hill Cumorah.

**Moses** Moses was a prophet who lived long ago. He led the Israelites out of Egypt. He restored special priesthood power to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple.

**Mr. Chandler** Mr. Chandler sold some rolls of old paper to the Saints in Kirtland. The writings of Abraham were on the rolls of paper.

**Mr. Hale** Mr. Hale was Emma Smith's father.

**Noah** Noah was a prophet who lived long ago.

**Page, Hiram** Hiram Page said he had a stone that gave him revelations for the Church.

**Partridge, Edward** Edward Partridge was the first bishop of the Church.

**Peter** Peter was one of Jesus' Twelve Apostles. Peter, James, and John restored the Melchizedek Priesthood to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.

**Phelps, William W.** William W. Phelps helped start schools in Jackson County, Missouri.

**Pioneers** The pioneers were the Saints who went across the plains to the Rocky Mountains.

**Pratt, Parley P.** Parley P. Pratt went on a mission to teach the Lamanites.

**Richards, Willard** Willard Richards was a friend of Joseph Smith. He was with Joseph in Carthage Jail.

**Rigdon, Sidney** Sidney Rigdon was one of Joseph's counselors.

**Smith, Alvin** Alvin Smith was one of Joseph Smith's older brothers. He died. Joseph saw a vision of Alvin in the celestial kingdom of heaven.

**Smith, Emma** Emma Smith was Joseph Smith's wife. She was the first leader of the Relief Society. She made a hymnbook for the Church.

**Smith, Hyrum** Hyrum Smith was one of Joseph Smith's older brothers. Hyrum was killed in Carthage Jail with Joseph.

**Smith, Joseph** Joseph Smith was the first prophet and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Jesus gave Joseph Smith the revelations that are in the Doctrine and Covenants. Joseph was killed in Carthage Jail.

**Smith, Joseph Sr.** Joseph Smith Sr. was Joseph Smith's father.

**Smith, Lucy** Lucy Smith was Joseph Smith's mother.

**Smith, Samuel** Samuel Smith was Joseph Smith's younger brother. He was the first missionary for the Church.

**Snow, Eliza R.** Eliza R. Snow was a member of the first Relief Society.

**Taylor, John** John Taylor was a friend of Joseph Smith. He was with Joseph in Carthage Jail. Later he became President of the Church.

**Whitmer, David** David Whitmer was a witness who saw the gold plates. He helped start the Church on 6 April 1830.

**Whitmer, Peter** Peter Whitmer helped start the Church on 6 April 1830.

**Whitney, Newel K.** Newel K. Whitney was the second bishop of the Church.

**Williams, Frederick G.** Frederick G. Williams was one of Joseph Smith's counselors.

**Young, Brigham** Brigham Young was one of the Twelve Apostles. He was the leader of the pioneers. He was the President of the Church after Joseph Smith.

**Young, Phineas** Phineas Young was Brigham Young's brother.

# Scenes from Church History



**Sacred Grove.** In these woods near his home, the Prophet Joseph Smith received the First Vision.



**Hill Cumorah.** The angel Moroni directed Joseph Smith to find the gold plates he had buried in this hill (hill is center right).



**Log House of Joseph Smith Sr.** This is a replica of the home where the Smith family once lived.



**Grandin Press and Print Shop.** The first printing of the Book of Mormon took place here.



**Susquehanna River.** The Aaronic Priesthood and Melchizedek Priesthood were restored on the banks of this river (see D&C 13; 128:20).



**Log House of Peter Whitmer Sr.** This replica was built on the site where the Church was organized on 6 April 1830.



**Kirtland Temple.** This was the first temple built in the latter days. Jesus, Moses, Elias, and Elijah restored priesthood keys in this temple.



**Valley of Adam-ondi-Ahman.** Adam, other prophets, and faithful Saints will meet the Savior here before His Second Coming.



**Liberty Jail.** While unjustly imprisoned here, Joseph Smith received the revelation now recorded in Doctrine and Covenants 121–23.



**Carthage Jail.** Here the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum were martyred on 27 June 1844 (see D&C 135).



**Nauvoo Illinois Temple.** The Nauvoo Temple, which was destroyed after the Saints left the city in 1846, was rebuilt and dedicated in 2002.



**Brigham Young Home.** This is a view of the restored home of Brigham Young in Nauvoo, Illinois.



**The Saints Move West.** Painting by C. C. A. Christensen



**Salt Lake Temple.** The Salt Lake Temple took the Saints 40 years to build.



# Presidents of the Church



*Joseph Smith, 1830-1844*



*Brigham Young, 1847-1877*



*John Taylor, 1880-1887*



*Wilford Woodruff, 1889-1898*



*Lorenzo Snow, 1898-1901*



*Joseph F. Smith, 1901-1918*



*Heber J. Grant, 1918-1945*



*George Albert Smith, 1945-1951*



*David O. McKay, 1951-1970*



*Joseph Fielding Smith, 1970-1972*



*Harold B. Lee, 1972-1973*



*Spencer W. Kimball, 1973-1985*



*Ezra Taft Benson, 1985-1994*



*Howard W. Hunter, 1994-1995*



*Gordon B. Hinckley, 1995-*

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

