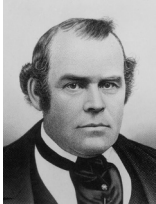


# “They Who Suffer Persecution for My Name” (D&C 101:35)

Parley P. Pratt wrote about the tribulations of the Saints who were expelled from Jackson County, Missouri:



“Companies of ruffians were ranging the county in every direction; bursting into houses without fear, . . . frightening women and children, and threatening to kill them if they did not flee immediately. . . .

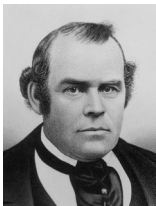
“ . . . Women and children fled in every direction. One party of about one hundred and fifty fled to the prairie, where they wandered for several days, mostly without food; and nothing but the open firmament [sky] for their shelter. Other parties fled towards the Missouri River. During the dispersion of women and children, parties were hunting the men, firing upon some, tying up and whipping others, and some they pursued several miles” (*Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt*, ed. Parley P. Pratt Jr. [1938], 101–2).

Lyman Wight, a Church leader in Missouri, later said of the Saints’ experience:



“I saw one hundred and ninety women and children driven thirty miles across the prairie, with three decrepit men only in their company, in the month of Nov[ember], the ground thinly crusted with sleet, and I could easily follow on their trail by the *blood that flowed from their lacerated feet* . . . on the stubble of the burnt prairie” (Lyman Wight, in “Trial of Joseph Smith,” *Times and Seasons*, July 15, 1843, 264).

Parley P. Pratt wrote about the Saints who waited to cross the Missouri River to flee from Jackson County into Clay County:



“The shore began to be lined on both sides of the ferry with men, women and children; goods, wagons, boxes, provisions, etc., while the ferry was constantly employed. . . . Hundreds of people were seen in every direction, some in tents and some in the open air around their fires, while the rain descended in torrents. Husbands were inquiring for their wives, wives for their husbands; parents for children, and children for parents. . . . The scene was indescribable, and, I am sure, would have melted the hearts of any people on the earth, except our blind oppressors, and a blind and ignorant community” (*Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt*, ed. Parley P. Pratt Jr. [1938], 102).

- If you had been among these Saints, what thoughts or feelings do you think you might have had?

