

Legacies of The Restoration

Historic Plural Marriage, Temples &
Church Succession, with Kimberly Smith



Nate Richardson



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Abbreviated Contents

Joseph Smith & Plural Marriage

Joseph, Brigham, Temples, &
Church Succession



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JOSEPH SMITH & PLURAL MARRIAGE



It's hard to have a book on Joseph Smith without touching on this topic.

It is inherently controversial, but it is nonetheless a fact that Joseph was commanded to initiate plural marriage in this dispensation after the pattern of the ancient patriarchs, he obeyed this command, and much good came to the church of God from it.

It is also a fact that this practice is no longer necessary in the church, and has been discontinued therein.

Join me for a look at some introductory doctrines and facts surrounding these matters. A further study on these topics will be treated elsewhere, these suffice for the general scope of this book, which is to uphold and defend the life, teachings, and legacy of Joseph Smith and the kingdom of God he initiated in these latter-days.

Plural Marriage History & Doctrine of Joseph Smith & the Law of Adoption, Highlighting a Kimberly Watson Smith Presentation

It takes prophets to understand prophets.

If you're not willing to consider a principal taught by the Lord's servants favorably, you aren't praying about it in faith. Lucy Walker a plural wife of Joseph taught this, that when praying on the teaching, she at first didn't get an answer because she was not willing to consider that it might be true.

Helen Mar Kimball fasted 14 days and got a witness of plural marriage.

Monogamy is the basic law of the celestial kingdom, and no one will be required to live plural marriage.

John Taylor taught that Abraham had a right to the priesthood.

Book of Mormon is not plural because it was 1 branch, they were set.

Jer. 2 and 3 are about Judah and Israel joining. Eliza snow is Judah and Joseph Smith Israel. Future, the seed by

Joseph's wives, they're the fulfillment, and were in part by the levirate law through Brigham fulfilled.

We have only DNA tested 5 of Joseph's plural wives, there may be seed we don't know of.

Joseph Smith restored the bloodline of Israel, the priesthood can only be had by the bloodline. Sealing in temple you're sealed to that bloodline.

The literal blood of Israel are saviors on Mount Zion, and those adopted in have the blood change.

There were front marriages, women sealed to Joseph, hidden and other men assigned to protect them, and children of this marriage would be Joseph's children.

Joseph denies spiritual wifeism, adultery, etc., when on trial in front of authorities. Legally, by the state, he only had one wife; he says, "I can only find 1 wife." By the authority of the state, he only had 1.

Plural Marriage & Joseph as Restorer by Kimberly Smith

Shared with permission.

- ❖ Careful estimates put Joseph Smith's Plural wives between 30-40.

- ❖ The first plural marriage occurred in the mid-1830's.
- ❖ Likely received the revelation as early as 1831.
- ❖ The written copy was but "a portion of the revelation."
- ❖ When the Lord revealed to Joseph Smith plural marriage he repeatedly said that it was a continuation of the Abrahamic covenant.
- ❖ Abrahamic covenant is an eternal covenant.
- ❖ Abraham was the elect of God before the foundation of this earth. God made a covenant with Abraham. In Genesis 22:18 it reads: "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice."
- ❖ The plurality of wives was not only sanctioned of the Lord among Israel, but in certain cases it seems to have been absolutely necessary for the continuation of the name and posterity of a righteous man.
- ❖ From the loins of Abraham came Jesus Christ and from him came the Prophet Joseph Smith.
- ❖ "Therefore, thus saith the Lord unto you, with whom the priesthood hath continued through the lineage of your fathers—For ye are lawful heirs, according to the flesh, and have been hid from the world with Christ in God."

- ❖ Joseph Smith is a restorer. His mission was to restore the sacred principles, doctrines, ordinances and power that existed in the Primitive Church, as was had among the righteous Israelites.
- ❖ Plural Marriage is an ancient order of the Priesthood.
- ❖ It is Joseph who governs the practice of plural marriage saying: "I hold the keys of this power in the last days; for there is never but one on earth at a time on whom the power and its keys are conferred; and I have constantly said no man shall have but one wife at a time unless the Lord directs otherwise." (TPJS, p. 324) The Book of Mormon prophet, Jacob, corroborates the same saying: "For if I will, saith the Lord of Hosts, raise up seed unto me, I will command my people . . ."

Plural Wives of Joseph Smith: In Their Words

Joseph's First Plural Wife in Nauvoo: **Louisa Beaman** was "a woman of irreproachable morality, who entered into the plural marriage relation on a deep-seated conviction that the doctrine was from God."



Mary Elizabeth Rollins: "An **angel** came to me – it went through me like lightning – I was afraid. Joseph Said he came with more **revelation** and **knowledge** than Joseph ever dare reveal."



Desdemona Fullmer: reported a night vision in which an angel told her that the polygamy doctrine was true. "Having been convinced of the truth of polygamy,

I therefore entered into the order."



Lucy Walker: "As I was praying the last time, an angel of the Lord appeared to me and told me that the principle was of God and for me to accept it."



Helen Mar Kimball: "A vision of my mind was open to see & understand the will & design of the Almighty [*sic*]. I had a view of the order of plural marriage. The beauty & the glory which I saw in it was enough to make up for the trials in this life."



Eliza R Snow Smith: “In Nauvoo I first understood that the practice of plurality of wives was to be introduced into the church. The subject was very repugnant to my feelings—. **But when I reflected that I was living in the Dispensation of the fulness of times, embracing all other Dispensations, surely Plural Marriage must necessarily be included.**”

“It was not long however, after I received the first intimation, before the announcement reached me that the 'set time' had come — that **God had commanded his servants to establish the order**, by taking additional wives — **I knew that God ... was speaking.**”



Mary Elizabeth Rollins Lightner:

- ❖ Risked her life to save the Book of Commandments.
- ❖ First woman God commanded Joseph to take as a plural wife.
- ❖ Married to Adam Lightner when Joseph Smith approached her to become his plural wife.
- ❖ “Joseph made known to me that **God** had **commanded** him in July, 1834, to take me for a wife. But he had **not dared** to make it known to me, for when he received the revelation, I was in Missouri and when he did see me, **I was married**. But he was **again commanded** to fulfill the first revelation or **suffer condemnation**, for I was created for him before the foundation of the earth was laid.”

- ❖ I was **not sealed** to him [Joseph Smith] **until I had a witness**. I had been **dreaming** for a number of **years** I was **his wife**. I thought I was a **great sinner**. I **prayed** to God to **take it from me** for I felt it was a sin; but when Joseph sent for me he told me all of these things
- ❖ “Well”, said I, “don’t you think it was an angel of the devil that told you these things?”

Said he, “No, it was an angel of God, God Almighty showed me the difference between an angel of light and Satan’s angels. The angel came to me three times between the years of 1834 and 1842 and said I was to obey that principle or he would slay me . . .”

I told him I would never be sealed to him until I had a witness. Said he, “You have a witness”. . . . I made it a subject of prayer and I worried about it because I did not dare to speak to a living being except Brigham Young. I went out and got between three haystack where no one could see me. As I knelt down, I thought, why not pray as Moses did? He prayed with his hands raised. When his hands were raised, Israel was victorious, but when they were not raised, the Philistines were victorious. I lifted my hands and I have heard Joseph say the angels covered their faces.

I knelt down and if ever a poor mortal prayed, I did.

- ❖ “My husband did not belong to the Church. I begged him and pled with him to join but he would not. He said he did not believe in it, though he thought a great deal of Joseph. He sacrificed his property rather than testify against Joseph, Hyrum, and George A Smith. After he said this, I went forward and was sealed to Joseph for eternity.”



Mary Elizabeth Rollins Lightner

In 1834, Joseph was commanded to take me for a wife. I was 1,000 miles from him. He got afraid. The angel came to him 3 times, the last time with a drawn sword and threatened his life.

“Joseph said I was his before I came here, and he said all the devils in hell should never get me from him”.



After receiving other testimonies, I felt I could no longer disbelieve and in the month of March (1842) Brigham Young sealed me to Joseph, for time and all eternity.

“My husband did not belong to the church. I begged him and pled with him to join but he would not. He said he did not believe in it. After he said this, I went forward and was sealed to Joseph for eternity”.

Helen Mar Kimball:

- ❖ Daughter of Heber C. Kimball
- ❖ Sealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith at 14 years of age
- ❖ Marriage was not consummated
- ❖ “He [her father-Heber C. Kimball] taught me the principle of Celestial marriage and having a great desire to be connected with the Prophet, Joseph, he offered me to him; this I afterwards learned from the Prophet’s own mouth. My father had but one ewe lamb, but willing laid her upon the altar.”
- ❖ “I will pass over the temptations which I had during the twenty four hours after my father introduced to

me this principle & asked me if I would be sealed to Joseph, who came next morning & with my parents I heard him teach & explain the principle of Celestial marriage-after which he said to me, “If you will take this step, it will ensure your eternal salvation and exaltation & that of your father’s household & all of your kindred.”

- ❖ For more information on Helen & Joseph’s marriage see www.ldsanswers.org/did-joseph-smith-marry-a-14-year-old-girl
- ❖ See also Helen’s own booklet: “Why We Practice Plural Marriage”



Debunking Some Popular Joseph Smith Plural Marriage Claims with Kimberly Smith

Q: Emma Smith pushes a spiritual life of Joseph down the stairs when she learns that she is pregnant with Joseph's child?

A: That story is not corroborated by any first hand accounts. The story is alleging about Eliza R Snow who never said anywhere about the incident.

Q: Did Joseph begin polygamy without Emma's knowledge and consent? Did Emma know Joseph had begun practicing it?

A: Joseph did not begin the practice without Emma's consent. Emma knew a lot. She knew about Fanny Alger and she gave her consent for Joseph to marry the Patridge sisters.

Emma was aware of the revelation on plural marriage since at least 1835. History hasn't been able to hide the fact that she went from accepting the doctrine on plural marriage to rejecting it.

She willingly gave Joseph Smith 4 of his wives before she became tried again and then started fighting against it.

Joseph Smith was the only one with the authority to introduce plural marriage to anyone. In 1835, the only ones who knew about the plural marriage revelation were Joseph Smith, Emma, and Oliver Cowdery.

Helen Mar Kimball (autobiography, 1881): Helen wrote that after Joseph taught the principle of celestial marriage he told her, “If you will take this step, it will ensure your eternal salvation and exaltation and that of your father’s household and all of your kindred.” Scholars routinely cite this passage when discussing whether women were promised salvation in return for plural marriage.

On the Life & Character of Emma Smith

The angel Moroni told Joseph when he went to get the plates that he hadn't been faithful enough in keeping the commandments, so he had to come back in a year later try again. This happened several times finally the angel told him if you don't **come back with the right person** (Emma), you'll be cut off.

Joseph and Emma were told they could not get married and her father's house, which was the custom of the day, so they went and got married by the justice of the peace by themselves.

Emma's father was very wealthy, and she, as his only daughter, was set to inherit much, if not all, of it. She was also very educated and talented, perhaps more so than any other woman in New England. She sang beautifully. All of the educated boys in town were interested in her. Joseph Smith had a bad reputation due to the gold Bible and Angel stories, and he had a third-grade education. His skills were

chopping down trees and digging wells, but Emma gave up her status and financial opportunities to be with Joseph because of her testimony.

Emma went with Joseph to get the plates and Joseph was indeed given the plates. Emma was the one Moroni commanded Joseph to bring.

They buried five children.

When Joseph discovers that Martin Harris has lost the 116 pages of Book of Mormon transcript translation, the first thing Joseph says is, 'This will kill Emma,' then he says, 'I have lost my soul.' Emma was very sick at the time, and she had given up so much for the translation. And Joseph told Emma about the loss, she said just start over. Joseph the angel has taken the Urim and Thummim. Emma said, 'You have seen an angel, you've been called to do this work, you need to repent.' So Joseph repents and gets the Urim and Thummim back.

They moved 16 times in 17 years of marriage, and it wasn't until the 7th home that it was a home of their own.

A man betrayed Joseph, then went to his house and told Emma, "Your house is now my house. Get out." She had four children. She could only bring what she could carry. She grabbed the inspired interpretation of the Bible transcript, sewed pockets inside her dress to hide them, and they left. She then had to walk 300 miles. Whenever we read the Joseph Smith translation of the Bible, we should say a prayer of gratitude for Emma.

Emma took many people into her house, and even when she was sick, she took care of the sick.

Joseph went to jail 37 times before going to Carthage jail.

Thousands of people came through Emma's house for the funeral viewing.

Emma lived 35 years alone in Nauvoo after the martyrdom.

Brigham took the Saints west two years after the martyrdom.

Just before her death, she gave powerful testimony of the divine origin of the Book of Mormon and said that she never apostatized.

Lucy Smith speaks of how she's never seen anyone endure so much as Emma did.

Will Emma Smith be Saved? A Positive View

There is controversy over Emma's rejection of the plural marriage revelation of Joseph Smith.

When asked about their feelings about Emma these days, the brethren say “very positive.” Here is some analysis of how this could be the case.

D&C says those with calling and election sure won't be cut off no matter what, except sinning against the Holy Ghost. The D&C says they must pay for their own sin from that point on, a heavy burden for sin indeed. Hyrum Andrus points this out too.

Emma, with Joseph, had her second anointings. Therefore, she will suffer greatly, but after, yet be exalted. She did not shed innocent blood, though she came close to it when telling Joseph and Hyrum to go to Carthage. Early church presidents said she won't be saved, but that doesn't square with scripture, as indicated above. Several prophets have taught that if any teaching does not square with scripture to throw it out.

Did Emma sin against the Holy Ghost and shed innocent blood, revoking her exaltation? That's for God to decide. Rejecting and lying about plural marriage was serious sin, but it may not disqualify her ultimately. Advising Joseph against his inspired plan to go west and instead go to Carthage is near to but not the same as shedding innocent blood. She was also pregnant at the time, so we don't know her heart and the difficulties she was bearing.

Joseph said he would get Emma from hell. This squares with scripture: severe punishment, then exaltation for those whose second anointings have been received.

Also, Joseph likely has extra power to save those close to

him (I heard righteous priesthood holders have some of that ability), if they don't defect based on the conditions described in the scriptures.

LDS Institute Teacher Alma Allred Discusses Plural Marriage with Jason Wallace Presbyterian Pastor

Part 4 of a series, this part on polygamy. See my other writings for notes on the other parts.

<https://youtu.be/pR-htWB8EI0>

There may be more similarities between a protestant church and the LDS church than the LDS church and fundamentalist LDS.

Only 3 percent of LDS lived polygamy. A man had to be called to it. But fundamentalist groups, they're polygamy groups, they all do it.

Monogamy is the rule in the Old and New Testament and the modern church. Polygamy is the exception.

According to Emma's son, Emma said Joseph didn't do polygamy. But we don't have record of Emma saying that firsthand.

Note: We have many records of her being aware of polygamy in the Church and practiced by Joseph, she

usually was against it.

We can't tell which of the women sealed to Joseph were for marriage and which were just stealing into family.

The cases where Joseph was sealed to a woman who was already married, Alma says those would have been family sealings, not marriage sealings. Most of the cases of Joseph being sealed to married woman were when that woman's husband was not a member of the church.

Note: These sealings were for eternity, so women whose husbands weren't in the church wanted to secure those eternal blessings without ruining their families. This isn't done today.

John Bennett confessed in public trial that Joseph never taught him anything of unvirtuous behavior.

Marriages that are not performed by the priesthood end at death.

Brigham said that those who were called to polygamy were required to do so for exaltation.

Note - see the aspect of obedience.

Plenty of men who are not polygamists have hope of exaltation.

D&C 132 on polygamy also speaks of a man marrying a woman (singular) for exaltation, that is, monogamy.

One man entered a plural marriage after the church said to stop doing that, and he got an infection and died shortly

thereafter. He said he felt it was the judgment of God for going against the council of the church.

Some covenants are for the time being, like circumcision, which is now done away. So it was with plural marriage.

The united voice of the church is against polygamy.

Note—would this change in the laws of the land change the church's voice? The church might speak differently, but I doubt it with today's political climate and culture. At this point, frankly, it's odd that the law outlaws polygamy, but for Church members, the policy remains the same: do whatever God (through His prophet and His spirit) calls you to do.

Brigham Young had about 20 wives but was sealed to many more.

(Note - perhaps as family, not necessarily wives.)

WW Phelps was excommunicated for taking unauthorized wives.

The most reasonable purpose of plural marriage is to make more children, and that is what happened with plural marriage in the church.

It is a very well established concept in the church that there is only one man on the earth who can give people authority to perform plural marriages. Joseph Smith even told his brother Hyrum that he could not authorize plural marriages without his permission.

Fundamentalist LDS have a complete disregard for authority. Max Anderson's book "Polygamy: Fiction or Fact" rebuts the claims that fundamentalist groups have authority from John Taylor to practice polygamy.

The Smoot hearings say 4% of the church was practicing plural marriage; others claim 20 or 30%.

Brigham Young never lived in an area where they had communal property. He owned his own home, etc.

God reveals things to us based on the condition in which we find ourselves. Polygamy worked back then, it would not work in today's society.

Additional note from part 5 in the series: [The Ancient Paths - 5th Interview with Alma Allred, LDS Institute Instructor, on Scripture - YouTube](#)

D&C 101 was before polygamy was practiced large scale.

When the church first started polygamy, they were disingenuous about denying it in the same way that Abraham denied Sarah being his wife.

The original D&C 101 was removed because it was incompatible with D&C 132, the more expanded view that plural marriage is authorized in some occasions. In 1852 D&C 132 was canonized.

The "Joseph Wasn't a Polygamist"

Movement: No New Sources, & Other

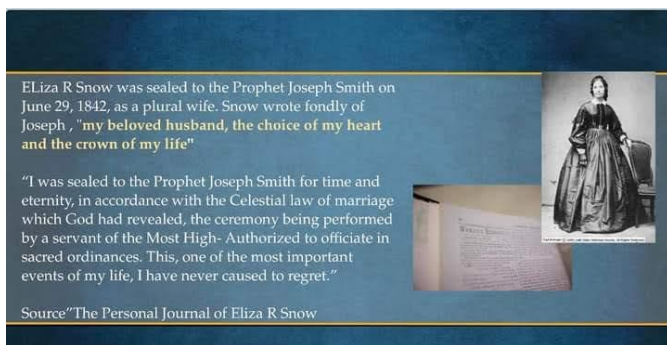
Issues - Analysis by Kimberly Smith

For me, the biggest issue I take with the “Joseph wasn’t a polygamist” movement is that it is not based on any new evidence or any new sources. Michelle Stone and others who are leading this charge are NOT offering new sources they are just offering a different and often times a very dark interpretation of existing data that they present out of context and often without clarifying information. I find this to be incredible deceptive and dishonest . All of the sources Michelle Stone uses are sources that were either written into the History by Brigham Young or the documents which were preserved by Brigham Young who she accuses of taking over the church for power and polygamy. Then she takes these sources and twists them and wrests them to fit her preferred position. This is just a simple critique of her work. And I think it’s fair and just.

She and others in this movement also purposely misrepresent the women. She likes to claim that the women’s testimonies were not written by them and only came during the Temple Lot Case. This is a gross misrepresentation of facts. We have women’s journals and private letters that were never meant to be public. The women started the Women’s Exponent—a periodical in early Utah where the women wrote their personal testimonies of polygamy as taught to them by the Prophet Joseph and published that to the world. These are women who were righteous, faithful, and devoted to Jesus Christ. In

other words, to write their WITNESS to the world of Joseph Smith teaching them polygamy would be a blatant lie and deception if they were just trying to uphold a “false narrative”. But these were women who left a mark on the world for Good. They were women who exhibited all the Gifts of the Spirit that most of us can only dream about one day having. Gifts of the Spirit that cannot be held by someone trying to perpetuate a fraud on other people.

The slide below is just one of many examples of the testimonies of women. These examples don’t come from affidavits or the temple lot case but are in the private and personal memoirs. They are consistent and faithful.



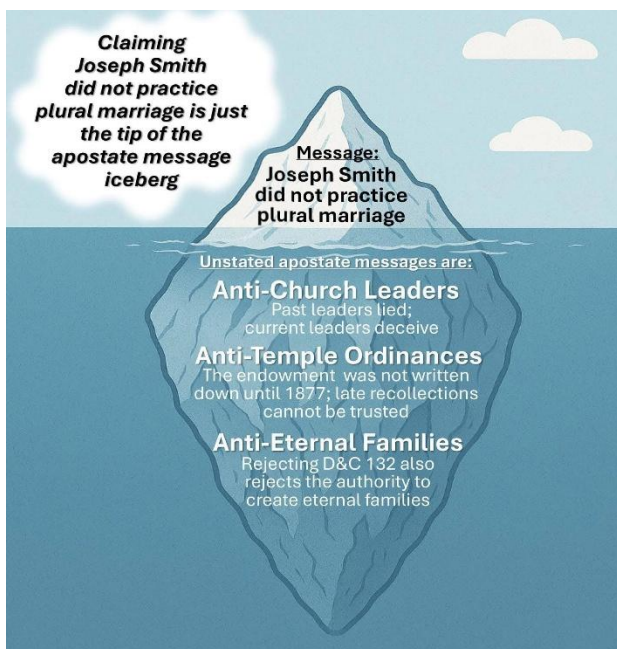
Eliza R Snow was sealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith on June 29, 1842, as a plural wife. Snow wrote fondly of Joseph , **"my beloved husband, the choice of my heart and the crown of my life"**

"I was sealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith for time and eternity, in accordance with the Celestial law of marriage which God had revealed, the ceremony being performed by a servant of the Most High- Authorized to officiate in sacred ordinances. This, one of the most important events of my life, I have never caused to regret."

Source "The Personal Journal of Eliza R Snow

The slide features two images: on the right, a black and white portrait of Eliza R. Snow, a woman in a long, dark, high-collared dress; and on the left, a photograph of a document, likely a page from her journal, showing handwritten text.

How Polygamy Denial Leads to Apostasy by Kimberly Smith



Brian Hales recently observed on Facebook that polygamy denial often leads to apostasy. While some may disagree with Brian Hales, it's impossible to ignore that many of the leading voices in the polygamy-denial movement have ultimately rejected core revelations of Joseph Smith, including the Restoration of Priesthood Authority.

Let me give you some examples:

1. Jeremy Hoop from Still Mormon: Left the Church and joined the Denver Snuffer movement. He rejects all authority after Joseph Smith.

2 Rob Fotheringham: Rob was excommunicated from the Church and has produced multiple videos promoting polygamy-denial claims. In these, he also rejects the validity of Doctrine and Covenants 110 and denies that Elijah appeared to Joseph Smith in the Kirtland Temple.

3. Michelle Stone: Among Michelle Stone's most controversial claims are her videos in which she rejects the legitimacy of today's temples and even denies that Joseph Smith ever administered the Nauvoo Endowment.

Everyone has their agency to listen to these voices, but we should be clear—this isn't merely a historical debate... it has become a religious movement. Polygamy deniers effectively spread their own interpretations or history in an effort to convert others to their new faith that diverges from the Restored Gospel which is why their movement is fundamentally dishonest.

Primary Concern with the Anti-Polygamy Movement: Lack of Honesty - Kimberly Smith

My primary concern regarding the Anti-Polygamy movement is the perceived lack of honesty surrounding it. Jeremy Hoop is a recognized LDS actor who enjoyed success playing multiple LDS historical figures. Now he is taking a position in direct opposition to the characters he once played. Why doesn't Jeremy Hoop inform his audience that he is representing the Denver Snuffer Remnant Movement?

Does it matter that he is now a Denver Snuffer follower who is trying to convince faithful Latter-day Saints that they have been “DUPED” by the Church and the History? Does it matter that the two leading members of the Doctrine of Christ group—Rebekah and Justin Griffin—helped Jeremy Hoop to produce his new anti-polygamy/anti-Brigham Young podcast. What is the motive behind it? [OBJ]

Jeremy Hoop and the Griffins have their agency to reject the revelations and separate themselves from the Church. However, they lack the moral grounds to justify themselves in bearing false witness, misquoting, or practicing deceit by falsely misrepresenting the historical record and the actual teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Polygamy is a tool even theological weapon by those who are seeking to usurp the authority of the Church. The anti-polygamy experiment has already been tried. The RLDS church didn't succeed taking the anti-polygamy position and neither will these modern dissenters who are repeating

the past. The Lord honored the ordained Leadership of Brigham Young over Joseph Smith III. Divine providence was always in favor of the Utah Saints.

History reveals the past, but it also predicts the future. The types of apostates that existed in the early days of the Church are similar to the type we face today.

In Nauvoo, persecution became an obsession for the dissenters. When William Law and other apostates conspired against the Prophet Joseph Smith to take his life, they were successful in their efforts to rile up a murderous mob of wicked men who were mere tools of a higher power of darkness. The conspirators succeeded because they employed the cunning use of slander, and the influential power of the press.

The same diabolical tactics are being employed today to vilify the name and character of Brigham Young. The modern-day printing press has become more sophisticated; with the clever use of video, slick graphics, skillful editing, and carefully extrapolated quotes taken out of context, it almost appears that anyone can make anyone believe whatever they desire.

Jeremy Hoop and other leaders in the anti-polygamy movement piously pretend to be “exposing” the “facts” while they mislead others with half-truths and manipulation of fact, hoping to attract members to their own interpretation of history and the revelations of Joseph Smith. As a result of insufficient knowledge of scripture and of real history, there is a surprisingly sufficient number of people whose inadequate understanding of doctrine leaves them susceptible to embracing the most sensationalized fiction and vicious falsehoods over proven facts and pure truth.

Both the wicked and the righteous have a part to perform—a mission to fulfill—in the great drama of the winding-up scene of the last days. Every man and woman has unrestrained exercise of their agency to do good or evil, but great is the condemnation that will come upon those who lie in order to deceive others.

Plural Kim Smith Gives History Of Plural Marriage, RLDS Polygamy Denial Resurfacing, by Kimberly Smith

POLYGAMY DENIAL: We Must Learn From Our History To Avoid Being Deceived

It so important that we do not deny revelations from the Lord, or we will be damned.

To deny that Joseph Smith taught and entered in plural marriage is a growing trend among members who have adopted and are resurrecting the 200 year old RLDS position.

For those un-familiar with history. The RLDS church began by leading men in Nauvoo who apostatized from Joseph Smith after he read them the revelation on Celestial marriage 1843.

Shortly after Joseph Smith's death, They started a secret campaign in Nauvoo claiming Joseph Smith was a fallen prophet for having introduced plural marriage and that is why he was murdered.

The RLDS Church never adopted or taught any of the doctrines and ordinances restored by the Prophet Joseph Smith with respect to baptism for the dead, temple endowments, eternal marriages, and other ordinances crucial to exaltation in the afterlife. They even denied that the Prophet ever received the revelation on eternal marriage, even for monogamous marriages. Those with the pretended authority to 'reorganize' the Church refrained from making derogatory remarks about the martyred Joseph Smith long enough to deceitfully convince his son, Joseph Smith III, to join the Reorganized Church in 1860, in which he was ordained President of the High Priesthood.

The RLDS Church revolved around opposition to two central issues: plural marriage and Brigham Young. They adopted doctrines that were out of harmony with the revelations and instructions of the Prophet Joseph Smith. Ironically, most of the people who became early members of the Reorganized Church either had neglected to aid in the construction of the temple at all, or they later abandoned construction of the Nauvoo Temple.

The RLDS Church—known today as the Community of Christ—has never succeeded in its attempts to usurp authority away from Brigham Young or the original Church. They did not adhere to the strict order of the

Priesthood to carry out the building of temples and administer saving ordinances for the living and the dead. They can hardly claim to be in possession of the faith of ancient Israel and, at the same time, not claim to have received as a part of that restoration the concept of temple worship. The Lord revealed that "the fullness of the priesthood" is received within the walls of the sacred temple itself. This fullness of the priesthood is received through washings, anointings, solemn assemblies, oracles in holy places, ordinances, endowments, and sealings. In consequence, the RLDS Church could never be guided by revelation through priesthood authority, or acknowledged by the Lord as His people.

Plural marriage is an ancient law. It was practiced by Moses, Abraham, David, and others. The most righteous women in the Old Testament were plural wives to these ancient Patriarchs including Hannah, Ruth, Sarah, Rachael, Leah, and Rebekah.

To deny this reality is to deny the scriptures.

2 Samuel 12:7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

8 And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom,

If God says "I gave thee thy master's wives into thy bosom...." then that is the way that it is.

Numbers Chapter 12 talks about Moses taking a plural

wife.

Aaron and Miriam, who had at times delivered the Lord's word to Israel, once dared to speak against Moses regarding a wife that he took. In response the Lord came to them in fierce wrath, and smote Miriam with leprosy, asking how they dared to speak against the man who God spoke face to face with.

I will just point out a few significant qualifiers from Jacob 2 that are often overlooked by Members who misapply Jacob's prohibition against polygamy to be universal:

In verse 27, we find that the restriction from practicing polygamy was actually limited in its application to the people present at this meeting where Jacob addresses them: "Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of the Lord: For there shall not any man among you have save it be one wife; and concubines he shall have none." To apply this scripture beyond the intended scope is textually unsupported.

In verse 30, Jacob includes a caveat to this direction to live monogamously: "For if I will, saith the Lord of Hosts, raise up seed unto me, I will command my people (to live polygamy); otherwise they shall hearken unto these things." Can you think of a single other commandment God has ever given where He included a caveat or exception with it? The fact that He did so in this case provides concrete evidence that monogamy is not an eternal truth or natural state – it was a commandment specific to this limited group of Nephites and was requisite for them to obey until it was rescinded (until God commanded otherwise).

In today's world the Prophet Joseph Smith and the early saints who practiced plural marriage are under attack. Even though we are not called upon to practice plural marriage today, each faithful member of the Church must eventually gain his/her own testimony that the Prophet Joseph Smith did receive a revelation from God which commanded plural marriage.

The Prophet Joseph Smith stated:

I have tried for a number of years to get the minds of the saints prepared to receive the things of God; but we frequently see some of them, after suffering all they have for the work of God, will fly to pieces like glass as soon as anything comes that is contrary to their traditions; they cannot stand the fire at all. How many will be able to abide a celestial law, and go through and receive their exaltation, I am unable to say, as many are called, but few are chosen.

14

How many of us have testimonies that will “stand the fire.” in regard to plural marriage?

Why Joseph Kept Plural Marriage Largely Private by Kimberly Watson Smith

Yes Joseph Smith publicly denied polygamy. His life depended upon it.

Keeping the revelation and practice of plural marriage secret and out of public view was a matter of life or death for the Saints. Joseph Bates Noble performed the first plural marriage of Joseph Smith on April 5, 1841, to Louisa Beaman. The Prophet dictated the words of the ceremony to Noble, and later cautioned him,

“In revealing this to you, I have placed my life in your hands, therefore do not in an evil hour betray me to my enemies” (Joseph B Noble, affidavit, June 26 1869).

Reflecting back on the events in Nauvoo Apostle Orson Hyde related:

“What would it have done for us, if they had known that many of us had more than one wife when we lived in Illinois? They would have broken us up, doubtless, worse than they did.”

Those involved with Nauvoo polygamy authorized by Joseph Smith believed they were doing so in obedience to Celestial Law as commanded by God, and so to protect individuals involved with obeying the commandments was seen as righteous, even if practicing polygamy was in violation of the law in the state of Illinois, for as Peter said

“We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29)

Joseph’s Polygamy ‘Denial’ Statements in Context – Kimberly Smith

I do not take the position that Joseph Smith publicly denied plural marriage which—according to plural marriage critics—would make the Prophet a liar.

Truth is really quite simple.

I take the position—backed by the historical record—that those statements when read and viewed in context reveal that The Prophet Joseph Smith’s consistent public denials of ‘polygamy’ were a disavowal and a refutation of the accusations which were hurled at him of fornication, adultery, lust, and the counterfeit spiritual wife doctrine.

I also take the position that Joseph Smith did not reveal sacred ordinances such as plural marriage sealings that were not intended for the world. He kept SECRET that which was SACRED.

Those in Nauvoo who did not understand sacred things did not understand the plural marriage covenant and the same is true today.

Enemies of the Prophet Joseph Smith in Nauvoo also falsely equated plural marriage with the ‘spiritual wife system’

and ‘polygamy,’ and unjustly inferred that Joseph Smith was implicated in that practice. The Prophet abhorred and denounced those wicked counterfeit practices in public and in private. The revelation which the Prophet received, however, related to the contrasting subject of eternal plural marriage covenants, together with the keys and authority to seal marriage for eternity.

Here is a second witness:

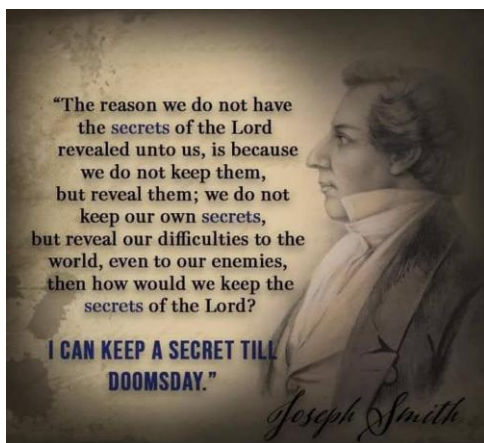
"When assailed by their enemies and accused of practicing things which were really not countenanced in the Church, they were justified in denying those imputations and at the same time avoiding the avowal of such doctrine as were not yet intended for the world... Polygamy in the ordinary and Asiatic sense of the term, never was and is not now a tenet of the Latter-day Saints. That which Joseph and Hyrum denounced... was altogether different to the order of celestial marriage including a plurality of wives... Joseph and Hyrum were consistent in their action against the false doctrines of polygamy and spiritual wifeism, instigated by the devil and advocated by men who did not comprehend sound doctrine nor the purity of the celestial marriage which God revealed for the holiest of purposes"

William Clayton affidavit in "Joseph Smith and Celestial Marriage," Deseret News, May 20, 1886, 2

Here is a Third Witness

“At the time the sisters of the Relief Society signed our article, I was married to the prophet— we made no allusion to any other system of marriage than Bennett’s— his was prostitution, and it was truly his, and he succeeded in

pandering his course on the credulity of the unsuspecting by making them believe that he was thus authorized by the Prophet. In those articles there is no reference to divine plural marriage. We aimed to put down its opposite.”Eliza R Snow



*** Graphic Credit: my 15 year old son, Stryder Smith.

A Testimony of Plural Marriage, The
Hard Doctrine, & Not Living It Today:
Kimberly Watson Smith

I think every woman has a hard time with this principle. You are not alone!!! What has really helped me is to read the stories of these women and how they could not have

entered into this order without it being revealed to them by vision or by angels themselves. They were witnesses to divine revelation and had a glimpse into eternity. We don't have the same kind of understanding and knowledge they received so naturally it is repugnant to our sensibilities. And will be until we receive the same divine witness for ourselves.

We have also been poisoned against Celestial Plural marriage because we have only seen the satanic counterfeit. Warren Jeff's polygamy is not Celestial plural marriage. And when we look at it through that lens we rightfully reject it.

Keep in mind, We aren't asked to live today it for a reason. But these women were called upon to live Plural marriage and they bore that cross and made the necessary sacrifice so that the bloodlines of Israel could be re-established in this dispensation. That is why Eliza said that we couldn't be saved without out it. Members of the Church are legal heirs to the Priesthood because these Israelite bloodlines were restored through men and women who were of the pure bloodline of Israel and then entered into the plural marriage Covenant to establish these bloodlines through their posterity.

We should not be afraid to honor them for their sacrifice and look to them for wisdom and counsel because they, like Abraham, were asked to make a sacrifice to prove their faith. We aren't asked to make that same sacrifice.

What is happening today that has me concerned is that a group of disgruntled members are claiming that these

women were ignorant dupes and were victims of a conspiracy by Brigham Young.

People are taking advantages of people's vulnerabilities and seeking to convince them that the TRUE order of Celestial plural marriage was a mistake and it was wrong. This is a clever tactic to weaken people's testimony of the ordained leadership of Brigham Young and the priesthood succession in the Church.

Make no mistake. Polygamy denial leads to rejection of all Temple ordinances and that is why the adversary is working so hard to convince members not believe it was practiced in the early days of the Church.

We need to be careful that we don't dishonor the fathers and mothers of the Restoration and fight against the truths they lived. I think that is Eliza's point.

Testimony of Plural Marriage: Eliza Snow

The testimony of Eliza R Snow Smlth- plural wife of the Prophet Joseph Smith:

"I know that God could not save the human family without it. [Celestial Plural Marriage] He has revealed no more important principle for the salvation of man. No one can oppose this doctrine and keep the spirit of the Lord, when

it was first taught the principle was not developed, but men went forward and felt they were fulfilling a command of God. Those who walked forward and honoured it, are noble women, and will be honoured by angels & holy beings. Those who operate against it cannot come into the presence of God." -Relief Society Minutes and Records (1869–1973), vol. 1 (1869–1882), pp. 14–19, CHL (LR 7222 14).

Problems with Michelle Stone's "132 Problems" Lecture Series Against Plural Marriage

Responding to Michelle Stone's Anti-Plural Marriage Lectures on her "132 Problems" Lecture series on YouTube.

I listened to 29 of her lectures to see if she had anything good to say, and was shocked to hear such a bold take against the teachings of the church, and will here point out some key concerns to beware of if you're wondering about this series. She has since made many more lectures, but I can't stand to hear them any longer. There will always be some new accusation, and we don't need to give all of these accusations the time of day. We can operate on the spirit of revelation without needing to question God every day.

It's also worth noting that she has now had to take down her series, making them private rather than public, apparently to protect her status as a church member. Indeed, her lectures raise many blatant arguments against the church, the revelations, and the Lord's anointed.

Since responding to the nay-sayers is often a good way to become acquainted with the situation, I'll present some of her more terrifying arguments so you get an idea of what the polygamy-deniers are up to, so you can be more confident in refusing to join these voices.

But I'll warn that what I present here isn't for the faint of heart. As I review some of her accusations, it will make your stomach turn. So if you aren't called to study this topic, you may want to skip this essay.

I know Michelle is a great person and I've enjoyed her homeschool advocacy lectures from days bygone, and she loves her family, but she is off on this issue, and I fear it is wearing her down.

I will applaud Michelle in that we should never blindly obey. Some say if church leader tells you to walk off a cliff to do it and you'll go to heaven, but Brigham says those who can't think for themselves wouldn't be able to handle being a God. So she gets this point right, but she takes it way to far in that she throws out much of what the church teaches, and discredits the names of Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and many other "noble and great" leaders of the kingdom of God from the beginning.

Michelle advocates that D&C 132 on plural marriage as a higher law is not actually scripture or doctrine. She believes any plural marriage is evil and not of God.

It's disturbing how these lectures rely on the Bible and don't allow for modern revelation, which is what our church is all about. We know the Bible is corrupted and doesn't have the fullness of the gospel. Please allow Joseph to get revelation and information not contained in the Bible. Joseph is the great dispensation head. He was prophesied of from the beginning of time to be a restorer of things that were lost. We have extensive evidence of Joseph starting plural marriage in this dispensation.

It is claimed that Jacob 2 says those who use plural marriage in the US will be smitten, despite that same chapter saying it's allowed at times.

She says Brigham, not Joseph started plural marriage, but overwhelming evidence shows Joseph was the one who started this. The RLDS Church tried to say it wasn't Joseph, but eventually had to give up on that narrative due to overwhelming evidence to the contrary.

She says Brigham was wrong in this, but still a prophet, but if it is an evil comparable to adultery, which the same Book of Mormon says people would be thrust to hell for, why would God use a hell bound sinner to lead his holy church by revelation? Clearly, God was ok with what they did. Prophets are God's "noble and great ones" whom he made his leaders, and time and again, they practice plural marriage.

As for concubines, yes, that seems bad, but there's a right

way and a wrong way to do it, and people could have opted for that role in pre-mortality, wanting to be near mighty ones to learn to emulate them. And the bible condemns masters who treat servants harshly. And yes, the seed of Ishmael was covenant seed and blessed. And we don't have the whole story about why people treated others the way they did, for example, the apocrypha says Ishmael almost killed baby Isaac, and we don't know how harshly Hagar may have been treating Abraham.

She equates Warren Jeffs' polygamy with prophetic polygamy, when obviously, Jeffs did a wicked version of polygamy. There are always bad guys to try to make God's ways look bad, including Bible scribes who downplayed plural marriage when it didn't fit their tradition.

Michelle doesn't believe scriptures need to be literal.

She believes God never destroys, only creates, something obviously false, as seen in all volumes of scripture. He doesn't delight in destroying, but destroy he will when he must. She isn't the first to claim that God only blesses and never curses, an obviously unscriptural claim.

She doesn't believe in the scriptural doctrine of patriarchal leadership and sees temple changes along these lines as removals of wicked things rather than watering things down based on what people are able to hear, in accordance with the book of Alma. (Note: I heard recently a lecture where someone who was involved in the script change said it was because there are more single women in the church now than married women, and it is to accommodate them.)

She claims that the more wives and children someone has, the poorer the outcomes will be. As a mother of 13, doesn't she know this isn't true? President Benson acknowledged that those with many siblings often grow up to be more sociable, more prone to sharing, and more well-rounded generally. It's the kids of small families who struggle the most. Kids of large families often have the most educated hearts, and that's what really matters. We also know many very learned people have come from large families. In short, it is an extremely worldly idea to make the 'quality over quantity' argument regarding children. You can't add to or diminish from the 'quality' of a child, every child is perfect.

She says "we don't need to put Israel on a pedestal". True, Israelites have sinned at times, but is this the spirit with which we treat our forefathers and the mighty prophets of old, those who have given so much to build God's kingdom? She criticizes prophet after prophet. For example about David she says, "No politician or corporate leader has anything on David" a "dirty old man". But David was authorized in most of his relations, he made a few mistakes, and repented as much as he could. I can think of plenty of modern characters who are involved in far deeper sexual sin than this.

She questions the Bible prophets' stance against the magicians.

She criticizes the law of Moses for cleanliness standards about menstruation and so forth, comparing them to a cartoon about those who have a meltdown whenever they contact something unclean. Is this joviality how we treat

the law of God recorded in the sacred word of God?

She claims that nowhere in the Bible does God allow polygamy, and then reads the account in the Bible where the prophet Nathan tells David that the Lord gave him many wives, then Michelle says we are interpreting that wrong. Time and again, evidences for plural marriage being righteous are seen, and she comes up with ways to re-interpret these things to fit her narrative.

The scripture clearly says Isaac is a likeness of Christ, but she wants to say that, actually, the ram is the likeness of Christ, not Isaac.

She really wanted to imply Sarah was in a polyandrous marriage to Pharaoh, and it was ambiguous whether it was consummated when the text clearly said it wasn't consummated, etc.

If Abraham was a good progressive in his marriage who didn't exercise dominion over Sarah at all, according to the text, having slaves and practicing "sex slavery" means he was just being a "man of his time", as though being nice to his wife would make being a rapist not a terrible thing.

She appears to focus on leaders' weaknesses and is quick to assume the worst of their motives. It's an astonishing, blatant, and consistent theme in her lectures.

She has an interpretation of Lot's wife as a heroin rather than a tragic example. This shows she is willing to twist scriptures to fit her feminist narrative.

She suggests the church will be cursed and destroyed for polygamy, even though we have not practiced it for so long. She will not be satisfied until the church rebukes the entire system as inherently evil. If anything, we will be smitten for NOT practicing it.

She mocks Brigham for prophesying that the intelligent people of the earth would see polygamy as good, claims that this didn't happen, but doesn't she know this could be a prophecy to be fulfilled in a yet future time? This is the attitude of mocking those who wait for Christ and say, "see? He hasn't come yet." Why is she so quick to question prophecies given by the Lord's anointed?

She claims the church suffered for practicing wicked polygamy. Did Christ suffer because he was wicked? You can't equate all suffering with wickedness.

She claims the church has prospered since it stopped polygamy. This is wrong on many levels. When you stop fighting the devil, he stops fighting you. Who has stronger faith, us or the early saints? "Saints" these days, you can't even talk to them about religion for 5 minutes before they're ready to turn tail and run. But I digress. The point is that you can't call us a prospering people just based on our money and our numbers. What counts is the level of faith of the people, and can we honestly say we are on par with our forefathers who sacrificed so much to make religion the forefront of their lives? As we more or less united as a people today than those of the early church who insisted on living near one another and often even

sharing everything with each other.

Joseph and Brigham weren't perfect. Neither were ancient prophets. But this doesn't mean their practice of plural marriage was wrong. It also doesn't mean that plural marriage was wrong, and they just continued in major sin and yet were accepted of God. The fact is that they were commanded to and did live plural marriage, even if imperfectly in some of their methods or comments. They remain mighty men of God who we look up to in their lives and teachings.

Yes, plural marriage can be a hard pill to swallow, but sometimes Christian life is hard. As President Nelson would say, it is 'myopic' (near-sighted) to worry about life and death when we have the gospel and are working to share it. We should see life as a mission in the hands of God, more than a time to make sure things are the way we want them.

Michelle's lectures insist that plural marriage is evil, and to the extent they practiced it, that the prophets were wicked, and that the revelations which endorse it are wicked. I feel she is out of line and leads many astray with these teachings.

Michelle has asked me to note here that she believes those who practiced and believe in the doctrine of plural marriage were deceived by a wrong false tradition, but not necessarily evil. I will say it doesn't always come off that way in her lectures, but here I say this for her sake. I don't think the net outcome for either view is much different. Today people hyperinflate the notion of 'bad choice not

bad person' argument, whereas the scriptures do correlate bad choices with becoming a bad person!

For additional study which specifically counter many of the claims she makes in her lectures:

Concubines and how they could be biblically justified (only when God says so in particular situations):

<http://richardsonstudies.com/2022/08/25/the-historical-system-of-concubines-as-a-command-of-god-a-look-at-the-right-wrong-way/>

David's plural marriage:

<http://richardsonstudies.com/2022/08/25/davids-plural-marriage-comparing-jacob-2-and-dc-132/>

Abraham's plural marriage:

<http://richardsonstudies.com/2022/08/25/abrahams-plural-marriages-resolving-concerns/>

Angel with drawn sword who commanded plural marriage:

<http://richardsonstudies.com/2022/08/25/the-angel-with-the-drawn-sword-legitimate-theologically-congruent/>

10 Examples of Women Who Were Led To And Loved Their Experiences in Polygamy

(Message from Allan someone, lost it, let me know if you know)

The Michelle Brady Stone challenge is easy.

"And I'll also invite you to share 10 examples of women who were led to and loved their experiences in polygamy."

Here, in no particular order, are 10 women who had a witness of the truth of plural marriage and who had positive experiences with it. Michelle's "led to" and "loved it" are squishy, vague, subjective terms. Life on the frontier was harsh, regardless of the family arrangement. People also tended to hold less than romantic views of marriage in general.

1. Eliza R. Snow.
2. Zina Huntington
3. Desdemona Fullmer.
4. Rachel Judd Hamblin.
5. Sarah Priscilla Leavitt

6. Lucy Hannah White Flake.
7. Emily Dow Partridge.
8. Phebe Carter Woodruff.*
9. Harriet Cook Young
10. Wilmarth East.

Now we can sit back and enjoy the spectacle as Michelle tries to tear down, denigrate, dismiss, and downplay the witness of these women.

*Van Wagener made the dishonest claim that has since been repeated that Phebe Carter Woodruff privately hated polygamy but was scared of losing her home. This claim comes from an anonymous piece in an anti-polygamy newspaper, supposedly provided by an anonymous friend.

Marriage of Joseph And Eliza: Fulfillment Of Prophecy – Kimberly Smith

RESTORING LOST ISRAEL: HOW THE MARRIAGE OF JOSEPH SMITH AND ELIZA R SNOW SYMBOLIZES THE FUTURE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY

In the Sinai wilderness after the Israelites exodus from Egypt, the symbolic betrothal of the bride (the house of

Israel) to the Bridegroom (Jehovah) took place. There, characteristic of Hebraic betrothal, the Lord entered into a covenant relationship with Jacob's descendants. Jehovah renewed the Abrahamic covenant with the children of Israel and laid this proposition before them:

If ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation (Ex. 19:5–6).

However, Israel did not stay faithful to the marriage covenant. In consideration of the gross infidelity of the unrepentant bride, the Bridegroom finally set aside the betrothal covenants with a humiliating and symbolic public divorce of the Northern Kingdom (Israel)—the Assyrian conquest of Israel.

But Judah did not learn her lesson of fidelity from her sister's humiliation and Judah-like Israel- were divorced publicly for their wickedness , as it were, via the Babylonian captivity.

In the marriage metaphor, Israel and Judah, two sisters were both married to the Lord Jehovah. After playing the harlot with many lovers in flagrant idolatry, it would pollute the land for them to return to their first love. The Jews understood this principle. It was part of their culture. The woman was “defiled” by her adultery. But in this case, the Lord makes a special exception. **The Lord will bring Judah and Israel together again in the last**

days; they will return to the marriage with the kindness, holiness, and love (Jer. 2:2-3) that the Bridegroom deserves.

Thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the Lord... for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion (Jer. 3:14).

Joseph Smith's divine role as the literal seed of Abraham was to RESTORE the House of Israel. Not just in a figural sense but in a literal sense. Restored in the flesh.

The entire story of the Restoration as it centers in the opening of the heavens to Joseph Smith is but the fulfilling of the promises and healing the covenant relationship that Jehovah made to his bride-- The House of Israel.

Marriage throughout scripture is always a beautiful and sacred symbolic representation of a covenant relationship that Jesus Christ has with his people and his church also known as the House of Israel.

It is the work and glory of the Almighty to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man. This work is accomplished in and by and through the house of Israel. Out of the House of Israel come God's servants who typify him and become saviors like him.

The eternal marriage covenant between the Prophet Joseph Smith and the Eliza R Snow is the symbolic representation of the future fulfilment of Jeremiah's prophecy.

Jeremiah 3:14 I will take you, one of a city (The New Jerusalem), and two (Judah and Ephraim) of a family, and I will bring you to Zion.

It should not go unnoticed that the same language God made with Israel anciently was the same language used by the Prophet Joseph Smith in a revelation given at Kirtland, Ohio in February of 1831 where the Lord revealed to the Saints where the city of New Jerusalem was to be "prepared that ye may be gathered in one, that ye may be my people and I will be your God. (Doctrine and Covenants 42:9,

The Prophet Joseph Smith was identified through revelation by God as being a pure Ephraimite who held the legal birthright to hold the Keys of the Priesthood in the last days and to be a "savior unto my people Israel." (Doctrine and Covenants 86: 8-11).

In a blessing given to Eliza R. Snow by the Prophet Joseph Smith, he pronounced her to be a descendent and daughter of Judah's royal house.

Eliza R Snow was sealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith on June 29, 1842.

Joseph Smith represents Israel through Ephraim
Eliza R Snow represents Judah

Thus it was the beginning of the healing of the breach between Israel (the Northern Kingdom) and Judah (the Southern Kingdom) and the fulfilment of Jeremiah's

prophecy of both Israel and Judah becoming faithful brides again to their bridegroom, Jehovah. It is the fulfilment of the Promise by the Lord that Israel and Judah would be brought together again in the Last days. **(The Lord will bring Judah and Israel together again in the last days; Jer. 2:2-3)**

The Prophet Joseph Smith also prophesied that Eliza, by virtue of her royal lineage, would one day visit Jerusalem. In 1872, Brigham Young commissioned George A. Smith to rededicate the Holy Land. He was accompanied by Sister Snow, and together with her brother, Lorenzo Snow, they stood on top of the Mount Olives and re-consecrated the Holy Land for the Gathering of the Jews and the House of Israel.

Eliza R Snow was known throughout Zion as a Hebrew Prophetess and a Preistess. She spoke in tongues, healed the sick, wrote our cherished hymns, and she revealed doctrine through her poetry.

Plural Marriage is not a stain on our Church's history. It is not something to be embarrassed about, apologize for, or to even deny. Celestial Plural Marriage exalts man and glorifies God. I so testify!

'No Good Fruits of Polygamy?" by Kimberly Smith

I recently made a video defending the Historical Practice of plural marriage. I had a lot of people attack me over it—the attacks were so great and numerous that I had to turn off comments and delete some of the horrific things being said about me. One man even called me Satan's Whore. Can you imagine defending the noble character of the men and women who obeyed God's commandments only to have someone spit in your face and demean you in such an unspeakable way?

My video wasn't so much about plural marriage as it was about defending the noble characters of the early Saints of our own religion who sacrificed so much for the Kingdom of God. Our Pioneer ancestors are the ones who suffered the most persecution. Today, those who use polygamy as a weapon against them bring shame and dishonor to their own name and to their own religion. Plural marriage is a hard subject but it was a reality for the founders of our own faith. We owe them a debt of gratitude. You and I are not asked to live plural marriage but it had a divine purpose and we are recipients of the blessings that they sacrificed for us to receive. I believe we have a duty to earnestly contend for the faith of our ancestors. Isn't that the LEAST we can do?

With that said, I woke up this morning to this kind message. It was a beacon of hope. It took away the sharpness of the negative comments and brought a tremendous amount of peace to my broken heart.

Here was the message:

“I appreciated your time and effort into putting this video together. I had gained a positive perspective of polygamy after spending hours and hours of reading my ancestors journals and recorded experiences with this practice. I've been left in awe at their sacrifices and ability to remain faithful despite the many members of their own faith who treated them poorly because they could not wrap their minds around the practice of polygamy even back when it was practiced. I wish members who are struggling with the practice of polygamy would study their own ancestors lives, instead of listening to Michelle Stone and her twisting of scripture to suit her own perspective. Family search is a wonderful tool to allow that to happen.

Was it difficult to practice, YES, does that mean it was wrong, NO!!! One of my biggest frustrations with Michelle Stones claim about polygamy is that "there are no good fruits of polygamy" Jesus Christ himself was a fruit of polygamy. I'm a fruit of polygamy, along with my husbands side of the family. I have many friends and neighbors who are "the fruit of polygamy". I believe many of the women who were called upon to live that law would rise up and refute her claims if they could do so. Your presentation helped me understand the practice even more, so thank you!”

Defending the Faith & Our Noble History of Plural Marriage by Kimberly Smith

12.1.23

I love reading and studying Church history (with the careful guidance of the Holy Ghost) because there is so much that we can learn from our righteous progenitors.

History is a prophecy for the future.

Recently, I have been pondering how the Prophet Joseph Smith addressed and treated those wicked apostates who conjured up and published lies and falsehoods that prevented people from embracing the faith of the Latter-day Saints.

While enduring starvation, loneliness, sickness, fatigue, bitterly cold conditions, and unjust incarceration in Liberty Jail, Joseph Smith wrote a letter to “the church in Caldwell County, Missouri.” On December 16, 1838, the Prophet chastised David Whitmer, describing him as a “dumb ass” comparable to Biblical dissenters and corrupted “prophets” such as Baalam, Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. The Prophet reprimanded those who were associating with Whitmer, and who sought to become their own light and follow their own god. Speaking particularly of W. W. Phelps, who testified against the Prophet Joseph Smith in a legal hearing in Missouri and “helped establish the case that committed the Mormon leaders to prison,” the Prophet warned:

This poor man [W. W. Phelps] who professes to be much of a prophet has no other dumb ass to ride but David Whitmer to forbid his madness when he goes up to curse Israel . . . he [David Whitmer] brays out cursings instead of blessings.

I have no doubt that Joseph Smith's public letter to the Saints regarding his former friends who turned hostile enemies would offend the Modern, soft, and politically correct Latter-day Saints. I have no doubt that if Joseph Smith were alive today he would speak the same harsh words against members of the Church who associate with and entertain those men and women today (Like Justin Griffin and Michelle Stone) who are publishing the most wicked and vile attacks against the early Prophets of the Restoration. And I have no doubt that all of Modern Mormondom would accuse Joseph of having fallen for exposing these traitors and the modern-day printing press and those corruptible characters behind it who are destroying the faith and testimony in the fullness of the Gospel of thousands of members of the Church today

I have always loved this quote and the principles it teaches. I have never been one to remain silent under any circumstance where truth needed to be defended even when the consequences for doing so harmed me or my family. It's not in my nature to be passive.

“If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest expression every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the

battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace, if he flinches at that point.”

I relate well to Benjamin F Johnson who was a loyal and dutiful son to the Prophet Joseph Smith and to Brigham Young.

When Benjamin F Johnson learned of attacks being published against Brigham Young portraying him as a seducer and an adulterer among the Polynesian Saints by a man who signed his name to these attacks as "A Book of Mormon Reader", Benjamin F Johnson expressed in his journal that to read these attacks against Brigham Young was more than he could bear and his desire to "repel it was like a smoldering fire within me."

These are the men I look to as my exemplars and my heroes. Even the women of Mormondom felt the call to stand up and defend the truths of their religion against those who were purposely misrepresenting the historical record.

Every single argument that is being made by Justin Griffin and Michelle Stone to attack Brigham Young and the historical practice of plural marriage has all been made previously by enemies of the early days of the Church. Our history is FILLED with faithful replies and rebuttals to arguments and these same poor interpretations of the facts.

We have the resources and the ability to arm ourselves with the truths of our history but we have to pay the price to seek them out.

The Women of the Restoration Themselves published responses to Michelle Stone's arguments. They started their

own periodical called the "Women's Exponent" in order to defend themselves and the practice of plural marriage. How many in the Church have even bothered to read the women's defense of Plural Marriage?

Michelle's arguments are not original. She may have a clever and more seductive way of re-telling old lies, but we should be able to recognize these tactics had we been dutiful sons and daughters of these faithful pioneers and not only believed our ancestors but took the time to seek out the beautiful truths of our history written by their own pens that they had the foresight to record for future generations.

In the Book of Revelation, we learn that in the pre-mortal existence, Lucifer was cast out of Heaven by the WORD OF OUR TESTIMONY.

Lucifer-- the dragon was cast down to this earth with his followers and the war in Heaven continues today. All one has to do is look at Social Media to see that Lucifer and his war of words and ideologies have drawn at least 1/3 part of the Church AGAIN (same as in the war in heaven) after him and now these men and women pretend to remain in the Church to influence others and they preach his sermons against God's people. Sadly, I see VERY Few who cast them out by the words of their testimonies. I see very FEW willing to stand up and defend our history. Instead, I see members who lack courage, knowledge, and their own solid foundations who stand idly by and even regurgitate these old lies and help to spread their disinformation campaign against the righteous prophets of the Restoration through their "Sunday Musings" and their podcasts.

We know their future. We know where this leads. We have history and the revelations to rely upon which tells us the fate of these saints. It would be better for them to never have been born or better for them to never have had the knowledge of the gospel to begin with.

What a tragedy for so many members who had the privilege of being born in the covenant only to be so easily tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine and by the emotional ramblings of a woman who is full of pride.

We reap what we sow.

Historian Josephus & Joseph Smith Agree: God Commanded Abraham's Plural Marriage

"Accordingly Sarai, at God's command, brought to his bed one of her hand-maidens, a woman of Egyptian descent, in order to obtain children by her." (Flavius Josephus, Antiquities of the Jews 1:187)

This matches modern revelation:

D&C 132 says, "34 God commanded Abraham, and Sarah gave Hagar to Abraham to wife. And why did she do it? Because this was the law; and from Hagar sprang many

people. This, therefore, was fulfilling, among other things, the promises. 35 Was Abraham, therefore, under condemnation? Verily I say unto you, Nay; for I, the Lord, commanded it." (D&C 132:34-35)

Joseph Smith said, "Abraham was guided in all his family affairs by the Lord; was conversed with by angels, and by the Lord; was told where to go, and when to stop; and prospered exceedingly in all that he put his hand unto; it was because he and his family obeyed the counsel of the Lord." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith <15 July 1842> pages 251–252)

JOSEPH, BRIGHAM, TEMPLES, & CHURCH SUCCESSION

Isaiah, Joseph Smith, Jesus Christ at SLC Temple Dedication by Kimberly Smith

8.28.23

The Doctrine of Christ Mob love to persecute members of the church and beat them over the head with all manner of false accusations about the Church and ordained leadership

of Brigham Young. This is just one of many diabolical tactics they use to convince members to let go of the fruit of the tree of life (or in other words...to get them deny the sacred temple endowment).

The most oft-repeated accusation is:

“Brigham Young wasn’t a Prophet because he didn’t have any revelations.” Just like the Pharisees in Jesus Christ’s day, the DoC Mob demand signs. And, Like the Pharisees, the Doctrine of Christ MOB deny the fulfillment of prophecy as it is happening.

BRIGHAM YOUNG FULFILLED ANCIENT BIBLICAL PROPHECY!

Here are the facts:

On September 21, 1823, the angel Moroni appeared to Joseph Smith and instructed him on many passages of scripture chief among them was a prophecy derived from a vision shown to Isaiah. (see Isaiah 2:2-3) This is the vision of the temple built in the Rocky Mountains in the last days.

Not only did Moroni quote this passage of scripture to Joseph Smith, but Joseph Smith even had visions related to this conversation and we are informed through the prophetic records that at one time the Prophet Isaiah himself appeared to Joseph Smith to personally explain his biblical prophecies. Joseph Smith was told by Isaiah that the Church would one day build a temple in the Rocky Mountains. This is why as early as 1830, the Prophet Joseph Smith expressed his desire to gather the Saints to the Rocky Mountains.

It was also well known among the membership of the early Church that Joseph Smith planned to establish a literal Zion in the tops of the Mountains, in fulfillment of Prophecy. God had promised Joseph Smith that the Rocky Mountains would be a land of inheritance for the Saints.

After the death of Joseph Smith, The responsibility of leading the Church on their exodus West fell upon Brigham Young. Once, When President Young was fasting and praying about the upcoming exodus to the west, the veil of heaven was parted and the following manifestation took place:

President Young had a vision of Joseph Smlth, who showed him the mountain that we now call Ensign Peak and Joseph said, “Build under the point where the colors fall and you will prosper and have peace.”

Upon reaching the Salt Lake Valley on 24 July 1847, Brigham Young was shown another Vision by the gift of seership just as Joseph Smith has beheld it previously. During this confirmatory vision a “Spirit of Light” rested upon Brigham Young and upon this occasion he saw the future glory of Zion and of Israel.

On July 28, 1847, Brigham Young and seven others ascended what is now called Ensign Peak and hoisted a symbolic banner that represented the Ensign of the ancient Israelite prophecy.

Two days later, Brigham Young crossed The Valley and stood on what is now Temple Square. Upon reaching that spot, the Prophet was shown yet another vision. He later declared:

“I scarcely ever say much about revelations, or visions, but suffice it to say, five years ago last July I was here and saw in the Spirit the Temple not ten feet from where they laid the Chief Corner Stone. I have not inquired of what kind of Temple we should build. Why? Because it was represented before me in vision. I have never looked upon that ground, but the vision of it was there. I see it as plainly as if it were in reality before me.”

DIRECT REVELATION: Brigham Young was shown a vision of the Salt Lake Temple’s structure and he knew that

it had a complex of towers that were symbolic of the order of the Priesthood. In Brigham Young's Heavenly vision he also saw some of the symbols that he incorporated into the building's exterior.

The cornerstones of the Salt Lake Temple were laid on April 6, 1853.

Elder Parley P Pratt saw a vision during the cornerstone ceremony that the Prophet Joseph Smith and many other angelic visitors were standing above the Temple's Foundation and observing the rites.

Exactly 40 years following Elder Pratt's vision, during the Salt Lake Temple Dedication, President WILFORD Woodruff revealed that during the services his eyes were allowed to see within the veil. He beheld that Joseph Smith had returned with many others from the Spirit world to witness the dedication of the temple. Among this Heavenly Host he saw the Savior and the Prophet Isaiah.

The Salt Lake Temple stands as literal, Physical reality of Brigham Young's prophetic mantle and the prophecies he fulfilled.

To deny the ordained leadership of Brigham Young, is to deny the Sun at noon-day.

*Erastus Snow journal entry for April 12, 1893 confirms that the Son of God was with the Saints during the dedication.

Many other Saints also recorded angelic visitations during the Salt Lake Temple Dedication. For references see "Temple Manifestations" Joseph Heinerman, 1974 pages 125-57.

"Doctrine of Christ" Church as False – Joseph as Taught by Brigham is Correct

They teach reincarnation, Joseph coming back as other people, etc.

They teach Brigham killing Joseph, despite us knowing who the actual conspirators to kill Joseph were, and Brigham not being one of them.

They teach the church fell after Joseph Smith, that their leader has the priesthood from ordination by God the Father, Joseph Smith didn't even have that.

They teach Joseph never taught plural marriage, when the history to that fact is obvious.

They accuse John Taylor and Willard Richards worked to kill Brigham, but, as Justin Griffin admits in a YouTube interview, there's no evidence those men even had guns at Carthage.

See this lecture with Kimberly Smith for details on this subject:

https://open.spotify.com/episode/3c6y5gfH49U8s7pM5Wl6Yj?si=1A4WBluvQYK1ICg59nJOig&utm_source=copy-link

Anti-Joseph Sentiment Directed at Brigham Young – GQC Quote

“Brigham became the inheritor of all that animosity and hatred that had been manifested towards Joseph during his lifetime; and when Joseph slept in a bloody grave, the enemies of the Church turned their attention to Brigham Young, his legal successor. If the Saints had wanted evidence in relation to who was the right man and who had the authority, the very **fact that the world hated, reviled and persecuted Brigham should have been sufficient evidence that he was taking the path which Joseph had trod, and that his course was pleasing in the sight of Heaven, and consequently hateful in the sight of hell.”** — George Q. Cannon (Journal of Discourses vol. 13 <5 December 1869> page 46)

Kirkland Temple Accepted and Why It Matters – Kimberly Smith

Kimberly Smith explains that polygamy deniers are uniting now to claim temple ordinances aren't necessary, and their idea of the Lord rejecting the Kirkland temple is an attack on truth. These people are getting further and further away from the Lord.

Kimberly says:

Today I would like to answer the Doctrine of Christ claim that the Nauvoo Temple was not accepted by the Lord and the Saints were “moved out of their place” and rejected by the Lord.

Here are the facts:

[OBJ]

After the completion of the Nauvoo Temple. The apostates and mobs destroyed the temple because they did not want to Saints to have a reason to return to Nauvoo.

It was also God who said it was better for the temple to be destroyed rather than the wicked take over His house for wicked purposes. The apostates then burned the temple in their vain attempt sever the Saints from their God.

The Nauvoo Temple, however, had already served its divine purpose and over 5,000 faithful Saints loyal to Joseph Smlth did receive the sacred temple endowment as promised by the Lord and the Prophet Joseph Smlth in preparation for the trek West to fulfill the Prophecy of the Prophet Joseph Smith the Saints would become a mighty people in the Rocky Mountains.

Section 124 when read by the light of truth and revelation reads:

“And if my people will hearken unto my voice, and UNTO THE VOICE OF MY SERVANTS WHOM I HAVE

APPOINTED TO LEAD MY PEOPLE, verily I say unto, they shall not be moved out of their place.”

Who were the servants the saints were to hearken to? The Lord named them specifically in Verses 124-129

“I give unto you me servant Brigham Young to be President over the Twelve traveling council, which TWELVE hold the keys to open up the authority of my kingdom upon the four corners of the earth. And after that to send my word to every creature; They are Heber C Kimball, Parley P Pratt, Orson Pratt, Orson Hyde, John Taylor, WILFORD Woodruff, Willard Richards, George A Smith.

These were the servants who were to be “hearkened” to according to the revelations of Jesus Christ

And the people hearkened to the prophet Joseph Smlth and to Hyrum until their death, then the right of Presidency fell on the shoulders of the Twelve. The faithful Saints “hearkened” to them and helped them to build the Temple. But the unfaithful rejected these servants who the Lord gave in this revelation to the Church for the Saints to HEARKEN to, departed from Nauvoo, refused to comply with the command of the Lord to build His House and were consequently MOVED OUT OF THEIR PLACE in the Church and into the Reorganized Church .

The moving “out of their place” DID NOT a refer to the location (Nauvoo) but to their place in the Kingdom of God.

The Lord warned in verses 46-47

“But If they will NOT HEARKEN to my voice, NOR UNTO THE VOICE OF THESE MEN WHOM I HAVE APPOINTED, they shall NOT BE BLEST, because they pollute mine holy grounds, and mine Holy ordinances, and Charters and my holy words which I give unto them. “And it shall come to pass, That if you build a house unto my name, and do not do the things that I say (hearken to the “voice of these men whom I have appointed”) I will not perform the oath which I make unto you, neither fulfill the promise which ye expect at my hands, SAITH THE LORD)

The Saints under the ordained leadership of Brigham Young received the promises of the Lord and those who fought the Saints as the moved west were removed from the Kingdom of God as God warned and little is known of them today expect in observing their evil deeds.

Sadly, today there is an foul resurrection of a century year old deception started by the apostales who were ”removed out of their place”.

Those who do not have a witness of the truthfulness of the work of God for themselves are falling prey to the same dark narrative that was started by those who fought against the completion of the Nauvoo temple after the death of Joseph Smilh.

Where do you stand? Have you been able to stand the fire of the modern day mobs and persecutors of truth who

laugh and mock you for worshipping in the temple of your God?

Joseph Smith & Temple Covenants etc. –
Kimberly Smith Refuting False
Teachings of the Doctrine of Christ
Group

10.8.22

This is probably one of the most important posts I have ever made. I hope you take the time to read it to the end. The purpose of this post is to separate fact from fiction, light from dark, truth from error.

There are members of the Church who are being sadly persuaded by the “Doctrine of Christ” claims that temple ordinances are not necessary and/or are an evil invention of Brigham Young who they hate and despise. Those behind this dark narrative are actually claiming that the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith was plotted by Brigham Young.

In an age of Controversy and conflicting doctrines and widespread unfamiliarity of true history and doctrine, hundreds of church members continue to find themselves unintentionally seduced by the voices in the “Doctrine of Christ” movement. Consequently, temple covenants,

priesthood blessings, family sealings and more are suddenly left null and void.

Where is the Truth?

Here are the facts:

On September 21, 1823, the angel Moroni appeared to Joseph Smith in his bedroom. In addition, to his instructions regarding the gold plates, Moroni quoted from five different chapters in the Bible (Mal. 3, Mal. 4, Isa. 11, Acts 3:22-23, and Joel 2:28-32). The angel Moroni also told Joseph Smith that without the sealing power of Elijah and the sealing of the children to the fathers and the fathers to the children the whole earth would be utterly wasted at the Second Coming.

Speaking of the sealing power that he received from Elijah in 1836, The Prophet Joseph Smith taught:

Elijah was the last Prophet that held the keys of the Priesthood (i.e. sealing power), and who will, before the last dispensation, restore the authority and deliver the keys of the Priesthood, in order that all the ordinances may be attended to in righteousness...Why send Elijah? Because he holds the keys of the authority to administer in all the ordinances of the Priesthood; and without the authority...the ordinances could not be administered in righteousness. (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, 172)

On another occasion, They Prophet Joseph Smith taught:

The greatest responsibility in this world that God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead. The apostle says, "They without us cannot be made perfect;" (Hebrews 11:40) for it is necessary that the sealing power should be in our hands to seal our children and our dead. (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, 356)

The Lord does not recognize any ordinance or ceremony, even though it be made or performed in his name, unless it is in accordance with his will and done by one who is recognized as his authorized servant...the coming of Elijah with the keys of sealing, [places] the stamp of approval on all that is done in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, so that it is recognized in the heavens and before the throne of God.

The Holy Spirit of Promise

There are those in the Doctrine of Christ group who further claim that we only need to be sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise. They are partially correct and partially wrong and by withholding all truth they mislead others and rob them of Salvation.

In Doctrine and Covenants section 76:53, it states:

They "are sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise, which the Father sheds forth upon all those who are just and true."

The purpose of the Holy Spirit of Promise is to "ratify and seal" an ORDINANCE. Without an ordinance, contract, or covenant made by the individual there is NOTHING for

the Holy Spirit of Promise to ratify and seal. This is why Elijah had to restore the sealing power of the Priesthood to the Prophet Joseph Smith. This is also why the Prophet Joseph Smith taught:

Elijah was the last Prophet that held the keys of the Priesthood (i.e. sealing power), and who will, before the last dispensation, restore the authority and deliver the keys of the Priesthood, in order that all the ordinances may be attended to in righteousness...Why send Elijah? Because he holds the keys of the authority to administer in all the ordinances of the Priesthood; and without the authority...the ordinances could not be administered in righteousness. (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, 172)

How do we know that an Ordinance is necessary to be sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise?

In section 84 of the Doctrine of Covenants, the Lord said:

20 Therefore, in the aordinances thereof, the power of bgodliness is manifest.

21 And without the ordinances thereof, and the aauthority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is bnot manifest unto men in the flesh;

In other words, without the ordinances of the temple, the POWER of GODLINESS IS NOT MANIFEST UNTO MEN IN THE FLESH.

There are some who even claim that the Temple

Ordinances are just “symbolic”. While, there is a lot of symbolism in the temple that points us to Jesus Christ, there are also real covenants made in the temple. Real laws are taught and bestowed upon the individual, and these acts are binding on heaven and on earth. Most importantly, both men and women are taught and instructed in how to officiate within the different orders of both the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthoods. And without these “covenants, contracts, bonds, obligations, oaths, vows, performances, connections, associations, there is nothing for the Holy Spirit of Promise to seal on the individual.

The Prophet Joseph Smith consistently taught the Saints in Nauvoo the purpose for building the Temple. He said:

But how are they to become saviors on Mount Zion? By building their temples, erecting their baptismal fonts, and going forth and receiving all the ordinances, baptisms, confirmations, washings, anointings, ordinations and sealing powers upon their heads, in behalf of all their progenitors who are dead, and redeem them that they may come forth in the first resurrection and be exalted to thrones of glory with them; and herein is the chain that binds the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, which fulfills the mission of Elijah.” (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith p. 330)

These are the truth revealed and restored by Jesus Christ to the Prophet Joseph Smith . These are the greater things the Lord promised the Nephites in Third Nephi that were to come if they proved their faith by first accepting the Doctrine taught by Christ in the Book of Mormon.

“And when they shall have received this, which is expedient that they should have first, to try their faith, and if it shall so be that they shall believe these things then shall the agreater things be made manifest unto them.” (3 Nephi 26)

Is it any wonder why the adversary is working so hard to get you to hate and despise Brigham Young. He was the only man who— through great sacrifice—carried on this work for which Joseph Smith laid the foundation. His name, like Joseph Smith’s name, is known for Good and Evil. As is true for all true Prophets of the Lord.

Performing the sacred work for our dead PREPARES us to receive the Return of Jesus Christ. We have a lot of work to do for our dead before the Savior can return. It is silly to me to assume that we don’t need a day/time of preparation. We must be tried and tested in all things.

“And we will prove them herewith, to see if they will do all things whatsoever the Lord their God shall command them.” (Abraham 3:25)

In conclusion, in one of the Prophet Joseph Smith’s final discourses before his death, he taught the importance of the ELijah in preparation for the coming of the Messiah:

“The spirit of Elias is first, Elijah second, and Messiah last. Elias is a forerunner to prepare the way, and the spirit and power of Elijah is to come after, holding the keys of power, building the Temple to the capstone, placing the seals of the Melchizedek Priesthood upon the house of Israel, and making all things ready; then Messiah comes to

His Temple, which is last of all. Messiah is above the spirit and power of Elijah, for He made the world, and was that spiritual rock unto Moses in the wilderness. Elijah was to come and prepare the way and build up the kingdom before the coming of the great day of the Lord, although the spirit of Elias might begin it. (March 10, 1844.) DHC 6:249–254. Page 340

What did Joseph Smith teach that was so profound? That by performing Temple Ordinances we are preparing for the return of the Messiah who will only come to his Temple where the power and Spirit of Elijah is manifest and is last of all.

The Prophet Joseph Smith further taught that without the sealing power of Elijah we cannot have our calling and election made sure or receive the second Comforter.

“The power of Elijah is sufficient to make our calling and election sure.” — Joseph Smith (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith <24 March 1844> page 338) [Note: the power of Messiah is a blessing that can come *after* the Calling and Election is Made Sure through the Priesthood of Elijah.]

“The [second] anointing and sealing is to be called, elected and made sure.” — Joseph Smith (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith <27 August 1843> page 323)

The Prophet Joseph Smith was performing the ordinances of the Sealing and the Second anointing in Nauvoo before his death.

“Willard & Jenette Richards Received their 2d Anointing and sealing.” (Wilford Woodruff Journals vol. 2 <27 January 1844> page 343)

“Wilford & Phebe W Woodruff receivd our 2d Anointing & sealings.” (Wilford Woodruff Journals vol. 2 <28 January 1844> page 344)

“J Taylor & Leonora Taylor Received their 2d Anointing & sealing.” (Wilford Woodruff Journals vol. 2 <30 January 1844> page 346)

“Br & Sister G A Smith was present this evening And Received their 2d Anointing & Sealing.” (Wilford Woodruff Journals vol. 2 <31 January 1844> page 346)

“Brother & Sister Wm. W Phelps Received their 2d Anointing & sealing.” (Wilford Woodruff Journals vol. 2 <2 February 1844> page 346)

We have labor to perform before we can receive the Second Comforter. Our faith has to be first tried and tested before Greater things are given such as the Second Comforter. If we cannot abide by the ordinances that we have already received and prove ourselves that we are willing to endure to the end then we will not become worthy to receive the ordinance of the second anointing which is required before we can receive the Second Comforter.

Those who are unconverted to the revelations relating to temple ordinances—whether they be the sacred endowment ceremonies or Eternal marriage covenants—have their agency to reject those revelations and separate themselves from the Church. However, they lack the moral grounds to justify themselves in bearing false witness, misquoting, or practicing deceit by falsely misrepresenting the historical record and the actual teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

This is my testimony.

The Greater Gospel (Found in Temples
& Teachings of Joseph Smith) Cannot
Be Denied by True Christians –
Kimberly Smith

Note: Here Kimberly speaks of the lower Melchizedek authority as restored by Peter James and John, and the higher, or holy orders as restored by Moses Elias and Elijah. These higher laws and powers are only given to the faithful, and are intentionally withheld from unbelieving people, and are much of the content of the sealed portion of the Book of Mormon, not in the standard public portion.

THE LESSER PART OF THINGS JESUS TAUGHT

The Doctrine of Christ movement (the movement which is trying to frame John Taylor and Willard Richards for the murder of Joseph Smith) only believes in the LESSER PART OF THINGS JESUS TAUGHT. They reject the Restoration of all things and by rejecting the restoration they reject both Jesus Christ and the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Let me explain:

When the Savior visited the Nephites in 3rd Nephi, he

permitted them to receive ONLY THE LESSER THINGS which he taught the people and WITHHELD THE GREATER THINGS because he knew that the people of that generation were not sufficiently humble and obedient and therefore not ready to receive and abide in the covenants. These are Mormon's words:

"And these things have I written, which are A LESSER PART of the things which he taught the people, and I have written them to the intent that they may be brought again unto this people, from the Gentiles, according to the words of Jesus hath spoken. And when they shall receive this, which is expedient that they should have first, TO TRY THEIR FAITH, and IF it shall so be that they shall believe these things THEN SHALL THE GREATER THINGS BE MADE MANIFEST UNTO THEM. And if it is so be that they will NOT BELIEVE THESE THINGS then shall THE GREATER THINGS BE WITHHELD FROM THEM, unto THEIR CONDEMNATION." (3 Nephi 26:8-12)

We learn two things from these verses.

1. The Book of Mormon is just the foundation of our beliefs and is given to TRY OUR FAITH to see if we will believe in Jesus Christ.
2. The Greater things Jesus Christ taught are not written in the Book of Mormon.

What are the GREATER THINGS withheld from the people in 3 Nephi and NOT written in the Book of Mormon? Do we have the greater things today?

The Greater things spoken of in the Book of Mormon that the Nephites did not receive is the Priesthood restoration of Moses, Elias, and Elijah.

While the Nephites had the Melchizedek Priesthood we know today that was restored by Peter, James, and John, they did not have the Priesthood of Moses, Elias, and Elijah.

Essentially, the Priesthood restoration of Peter, James, and John is a lower order of the Priesthood. When Moses, Elias, and Elijah came to Joseph Smith in the Kirtland temple in 1836 they restored additional keys and a HIGHER ORDER of the Priesthood.

Moses brought them authority to "gather Israel"--to legally re-organize the Chosen Lineage and family of God on Earth.

Elias restored the "dispensation of the Gospel of Abraham" which is the Priesthood authority to bestow higher ordinances.

Last of all, Elijah restored the FULLNESS OF THE PRIESTHOOD with its sealing power to seal family ordinances in a way to last beyond this life, up to ETERNAL LIVES in Exaltation in the HIGHEST DEGREE of Celestial Glory.

"Behold, I WILL REVEAL UNTO YOU THE PRIESTHOOD BY THE HAND OF ELIJAH THE PROPHET, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord... IF IT WERE NOT SO, THE WHOLE EARTH WOULD BE UTTERLY WASTED AT HIS COMING" (Doctrine and Covenant 2:1-3)

The Prophet Joseph Smith conferred the Priesthood of Elijah on nine of his closest followers on the 4th and 5th day of May 1842. They were Hyrum Smith, William Marks, William Law, George Miller, Newel K Whitney, James Adams, Brigham Young, Heber C Kimball, and Willard Richards. William Law and William Marks' names were removed from the record due to apostasy.

Near the end of his life the Prophet Joseph Smith taught the Saints that the mission of Elijah was to restore the FULLNESS of the Melchizedek Priesthood. On March 10, 1844, in a discourse entitled "Elias, Elijah, Messiah," he taught:

"The spirit, power, and calling of Elijah is that ye have power to hold the key of the revelations, ordinances, oracles, powers, and ENDOWMENTS OF THE FULLNESS OF THE MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD and the kingdom of God on the earth: and to receive, obtain, and perform all the ordinances belonging to the kingdom of God." (History of the Church vol. 6 10 March 1844 page 261

Those in the Doctrine of Christ movement who teach that all that is required is a broken heart and a contrite spirit in order for God to redeem you from your fallen state has denied the GREATER THINGS Jesus Christ taught and were withheld from the Book of Mormon but which were restored by the Prophet Joseph Smith. The Doctrine of Christ group robs you of Salvation and they offer only a rickety shacks worth of doctrine.

The Lord revealed to Mormon the following significant

edict because he knew that the children of men and even members of the church in the Last days would reject the GREATER THINGS:

"And in that day that they shall exercise faith in me, saith the Lord, even as the Brother of Jared did, that they may become sanctified in me, THEN will I manifest unto them the things which the Brother of Jared saw, even to the unfolding unto them ALL MY REVELATIONS, saith Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Father of the Heavens and of the earth, and all things that in them are.

"And he that will CONTEND AGAINST THE WORD OF THE LORD, LET HIM BE ACCURSED: and he will deny these things, let him be accursed; for unto them will I SHOW NO GREATER THINGS, saith Jesus Christ; for I am he who speaketh." (Ether 4:6-8)

Brigham Young as Rightful Successor of Joseph Smith by Kimberly Smith

DID BRIGHAM YOUNG HAVE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO LEAD THE CHURCH AFTER THE DEATH OF THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH?

The purpose of this post is to put all honest seekers in possession of the fact. The enemy of all truth and righteousness knows that the only way to lead members of

the Church astray and away from proper Priesthood authority is through falsehood, misinformation, and propaganda.

Jesus Christ said in the 84th section of the Doctrine and Covenants:

“ALL THEY WHO RECEIVE MY SERVANTS RECEIVE ME, SAITH THE LORD.”

We cannot reject the servants of God without rejecting Jesus Christ—so say the Revelations even the scriptures.

I humbly testify that **Brigham Young** was the **ONLY MAN** with **LEGAL AUTHORITY** to lead the Church after the deaths of Joseph and Hyrum Smith.

Here are the plain, precious, and simple facts:

1835:

February 14, 1835 Brigham Young was Chosen as one of the Apostles of Jesus Christ.

March 28 1835 Joseph Smith receives a revelation regarding the duties of the Twelve Apostles. Please see(Doctrine and Covenants 107:23-24, 33, 35)

1836:

January 12, 1836 Brigham Young and the other Apostles receive a HOLY ANOINTING. On that sacred occasion, the Prophet Joseph Smith placed his hands on Brigham

Young and pronounced a blessing. Joseph Smith wrote in his journal that he saw BRIGHAM YOUNG and the 12 in the Celestial Kingdom of God. (Journal 1835-1836, p. 137-138, 21 January 1836)

March 27, 1836 In the Kirtland Temple, The Prophet Joseph Smith administered the ordinance of washing of feet. Same ordinance that Jesus Christ administered to his 12 Apostles. On this sacred occasion, Joseph Smith taught:

“The Twelve are not to serve tables, but to BEAR THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM to all nations.” (Joseph Smith Diary, 30 March 1836).

1839:

June 3, 1839 The Prophet Joseph Smith sent this signed recommendation of Brigham Young which read:

“To the Saints scattered abroad to the Nations of Europe and to the World—

Be it known unto you that Elder Brigham Young is fully nourished to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and his testimony can be relied on he is a man of unexceptionable character and received his authority and Priesthood from under the hands of the the Presiding authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints WHO WERE CALLED BY ACTUAL REVELATION FROM GOD therefore God will bless him and bear record by his power thereby confirming his word and ministry thus testifieth your humble servants.”
Joseph Smith Jr.

1841: A NEW REVELATION WAS RECEIVED, NEW DUTIES GIVEN TO THE TWELVE, AND THE FULNESS OF THE PRIESTHOOD GIVEN

January 15, 1841 The Prophet Joseph Smith issued A Proclamation to the Saints Scattered Abroad. The Proclamation of the First Presidency of the Church to the Saints Scattered Abroad is significant because it was an official proclamation from the Presidents of the Church calling for every Latter-day Saint to gather and build Zion. This was a message for the entire world. The Prophet Joseph Smith called every member to rise up, awaken and fulfill the long foretold scriptural prophecies by emigrating to the New Jerusalem in America. In other words, The Gathering of Israel had finally begun.

January 19, 1841 The Prophet Joseph Smith received a magnificent revelation in Nauvoo, commanding the Saints to build a temple for the purpose of revealing the higher Priesthood authority which was restored by Moses, Elias, and Elijah. Joseph Smith dictated the Nauvoo Temple Revelation with the remarkable statement that the Latter-day Saints had not yet received the “Fullness of the Priesthood.”

July 9, 1841 The Prophet Joseph Smith received a Revelation for Brigham Young to stay home and no longer travel abroad. See Doctrine and Covenants 126

August 10, 1841 The Temple foundation was finished. Joseph Smith called a special meeting of the Twelve and **ANNOUNCED A CHANGE IN RESPONSIBILITIES OF**

THE TWELVE.

The Prophet Joseph Smith wrote:

“The time has come when the Twelve should be called in their place next to the First Presidency... and assist to bear off the kingdom victoriously to the nations.”

(An epistle to the Twelve, to the Saints Scattered Abroad among the Nations, Times and Seasons 2 pp. 521-522).

1842 With his new responsibilities, Brigham Young received the fullness of the Priesthood, the sealing keys of Elijah, and was ordained to the Patriarchal Priesthood.

May 4 and 5, 1842 The Prophet Joseph Smith called nine of the most faithful of his brethren to his side and presented sacred ceremonies and instructions known as the “endowment”—with the washing, anointing, key words, signs, and tokens—in the upper room of his mercantile store in Nauvoo, Illinois. These brethren were Hyrum Smith, **Brigham Young**, Heber C. Kimball, Willard Richards, William Marks, William Law, George Miller, Newel K. Whitney, and James Adams. (Joseph Smith Journal 4 May 1842; Joseph Smith’s Quorum of the Anointed, 1842-1845, A Documentary History pages 2-9.)

Revealing the Lord’s purpose in administering these ordinances, the Prophet declared:

“It is not the will of the Lord that I should live, and I must give you, here in this upper room, all those glorious plans and principles whereby men are entitled to the **Fulness of**

the priesthood.”

Joseph Smith later wrote of this significant occasion in his journal:

“I spent the day in the upper part of the store, that is in my private office...in council with General James Adams, of Springfield, Patriarch Hyrum Smith, Bishops Newel K. Whitney and George Miller, and President Brigham Young and Elders Heber C. Kimball and Willard Richards, instructing them in the principles and orders of the Priesthood, attending to washings, anointings, endowments, and the communication of keys pertaining to the Aaronic Priesthood, and so on to the highest order of the Melchizedek Priesthood...” (History of the Church vol. 5 <4 May 1842> pages 1-2, emphasis added; also published in Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith page 237)

George Miller (who never followed Brigham Young so no bias there) wrote:

“Joseph washed and anointed us as Kings and Priests to God and over the House of Israel and that in doing so, the Prophet conferred upon us Patriarchal Priesthood.” (This account survived and was preserved in Annual Publications of the Historical Society of Southern California volume 10 pages 120-121)

1844

March 1844 The Last Charge of the Twelve

Joseph Smith asked his Brother Hyrum and the Twelve to

attend a meeting. Each of the twelve received under the hands of Joseph and Hyrum Smith a confirmation of their responsibilities to lead the Church. Joseph Smith asked the Twelve to sign a document which read:

“Brethren the Lord bids me hasten the work in which we are engaged... It may be that my enemies kill me; and in case they should, and the keys and power which rest on me not be imparted to you, they will be lost from the Earth; but if I can only succeed in placing them upon your heads, then let me fall a victim to murderous hands if God will suffer it, and I can go with all pleasure and satisfaction, knowing that my work is done, and the foundation laid on which the Kingdom of God is to be reared in this dispensation of the fullness of times. **Upon the shoulders of the Twelve must the responsibility of leading this Church hence forth rest until you shall appoint others to succeed you,**” (Declaration of 12 Apostles, Images of a Mormon Prophet, p. 15).

June 27, 1844 The Martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith

August 8, 1844 Just six weeks after the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon got up and spoke on how the Saints should sustain him as guardian of the Church. However, when Brigham Young arose to address the Saints, the Lord plainly manifested His will through a divine manifestation that is soundly documented. By the miraculous power of God, Brigham Young was transfigured before the people. The transformation could not have been more astonishing; the Saints heard the voice of Joseph Smith, and the mantle of the Prophet fell upon

Brigham Young, symbolizing the passing of prophetic authority and the restoration of the biblical system of succession that God had given thousands of years previous. In ancient times, the prophet Elijah called Elisha to follow him, and finally, when Elijah was taken into heaven in a chariot of fire, Elisha became the prophet in Israel in Elijah's stead. Just as Elisha was called to carry on the work of Elijah, Brigham Young was chosen by the Lord above all other men to carry on the work of Joseph Smith.

1845 Those Saints loyal to Joseph Smith work to complete the Nauvoo Temple.

December 10, 1845, the first endowments in the Nauvoo Temple were administered. During a period of sixty days, 5,595 Saints received their endowments. Whenever and wherever the Lord has had a people whom he acknowledged as his own, they have built temples for the performance of holy ordinances.

1846

To save the lives of the Saints from cruel murder and complete extermination, Brigham Young moved them westward. He later remarked:

“Of our journey hither, we need say nothing, only God led us. Of the sufferings of those who were compelled to, and did leave Nauvoo in the winter of 1846, we need say nothing. Those who experienced it know it, and those who did not, to tell them of it would be like exhibiting a beautiful painting to a blind man.”

Contrary to the vain imagination of some in this generation, God did not reject the Church in Nauvoo—but rather, He saved it by a miracle. Up to the time the Nauvoo Temple was partly finished, the enemies of the Church—to a great extent—triumphed over the Saints. They were driven from place to place, and compelled through violence to flee from one state to another. But God did for them as he did for His ancient covenant people when he caused the waters of the Red Sea to separate, that they might pass through and escape the destruction threatened by their enemies.

History vindicates Brigham Young by virtue of the fulfillment of a number of prophecies. On August 6, 1842, the Prophet Joseph Smith prophesied by divine inspiration that the Latter-day Saints would be “driven to the Rocky Mountains,” and that some Saints would “live to go and assist in making settlements and build cities and see the saints become a mighty people in the midst of the Rocky Mountains.” (Doctrinal History of the Church 5:85)

In conclusion. Believing that the Church and or Brigham Young lost the Melchizedek Priesthood in 1834 contradicts an 1837 scripture given to Joseph Smith stating that the Priesthood had then in (1837) been restored **"FOR THE LAST TIME"**

"For unto you, the Twelve, and those, the First Presidency, who are appointed with you to be your counselors and your leaders, is the power of this priesthood given, for the last days and for the last time, in the which is the

dispensation of the fulness of times" (Doctrine and Covenants 112:30)

I testify that Brigham Young was the man called above all other men to carry on the work and mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith to dispense the truth and Priesthood to the Saints so that the ordinances of the Restored Gospel including Baptism, The Gift of the Holy Ghost, Washing, anointings, endowments, sealings could be administered in righteousness and with Legal Authority.

These are the Servants we have been commanded to HEARKEN TO and TO RECEIVE if we are to receive and follow Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World.

Against Re-Baptism: Concerning 3rd Nephi etc. by Kimberly Smith

WHY WERE THE NEPHITES RE-BAPTIZED IN 3 NEPHI?

The Doctrine of Christ group claims that Jesus Christ rebaptized the Nephites with the Melchizedek Priesthood because the Nephites only had the Preparatory Gospel pertaining to the Aaronic or Levitical Priesthood. And they claim members now needed to be baptized by the Melchizedek Priesthood in order to receive the baptism by Fire and Holy Ghost.

It is CRITICAL to understand why this is false doctrine because the Doctrine of Christ takes advantage of this false understanding by which they lead members away from the church by getting them to believe the baptism they received in the church is not sufficient. They claim you need to be baptized by the Melchizedek Priesthood (they believe the Church no longer has) and not the Aaronic priesthood.

HERE ARE THE FACTS:

After the tribes of Israel were brought out of Egypt the Lord proposed to make them a royal priesthood, conferring on members of all the tribes the authority of the Melchizedek Priesthood; but when they made a golden calf to worship in the absence of Moses and were in constant murmuring and rebellion, the Lord denied them this great honor and took Moses and the Higher Priesthood from them, and decreed that this priesthood should not be given them and that they “should not enter into his rest, while in the wilderness, which rest is the fulness of his glory.” (D. & C. 84:22-27. Numbers, chapters 1-3.)

From that time until the coming of our Redeemer, Israel was subject to the Aaronic Priesthood and the “carnal law,” which was added. Instead of taking the firstborn of the families, the Lord separated the tribe of Levi and made them the priests of the people. In other words, you had to be from the tribe of Levi to officiate in the Aaronic Priesthood.

All through the history of Israel until the coming of our

Redeemer, the blessings of the Holy Priesthood were restricted. The Priesthood was not given universally to the tribes. All of the Prophets however in the Old Testament held the Melchizedek Priesthood. The Prophet Joseph Smith informs us that in each case it was by divine appointment.

ELijah was the last of the Ancient Prophets upon whom the fullness was bestowed. So other Prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel were blessed with the Melchizedek Priesthood. But there was not universal bestowal of authority among the tribes from the time of the entrance of Israel into the promised land, until the coming of the Savior.

Like all other Prophets in the Old Testament times, Lehi held the Melchizedek Priesthood. The Nephites did not function under Aaronic Priesthood. The Nephites were descendants of Joseph. Lehi discovered this when reading the brass plates. He was a descendant of Manasseh, and Ishmael, who accompanied him with his family, was of the tribe of Ephraim.(Alma 10:3; Improvement Era, Vol. 8, p. 781; J. of D., Vol. 23, p. 184.)

Therefore there were NO LEVITES who accompanied Lehi to the Western Hemisphere. Under these conditions the Nephites officiated by virtue of the Melchizedek Priesthood from the days of Lehi to the days of the appearance of our Savior among them.

Now addressing the rebaptism of the Nephites in Third Nephi. There is nothing strange in the fact that when the Lord came to the Nephites.Nephi was baptized and so was

everybody else although they had been baptized before.

The Church among the Nephites before the coming of Christ was under the law of Moses. During these years they also observed the law of Moses. They offered sacrifice and performed the duties which in Israel had been assigned to the priests and Levites. They observed in every detail the requirements of the law. When the Savior came to them, he fulfilled the carnal law and did away with the sacrifice by the shedding of blood of animals. He informed the Nephites that in him the law of Moses was fulfilled.(2 Nephi 25:24-30; 3 Nephi 1:23-25; 9:15-17; 15:2-8.)

When the Savior came to the Nephites, he established the Church in its fulness among them, and he informed them that former things had passed away, for they were all fulfilled in him. He gave the Nephites all the authority which now included both the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood which we exercise today. We may be assured that in the days of Moroni the Nephites did ordain teachers and priests in the Aaronic Priesthood; but before the visit of the Savior they officiated in the Melchizedek Priesthood

The Savior organized his church among the Nephites. Therefore, it actually became a new organization and through baptism they came into it. In other words rebaptism was required for entrance into the Church.

We have a similar condition in this dispensation. The Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery were baptized by command of the Angel John the Baptist. Several others were baptized before the organization of the Church. However, on the day the church was organized all who had

been previously baptized were baptized again not for the remission of sins, but for entrance into the Church.

LDS Church Equating to Israel – Kimberly Smith

Yes I have grouped the House of Israel and the LDS church as one in the same because that it consistent with the revelations and statements of multiple prophets. The Prophet Joseph Smith said that the priesthood would never be taken from Church. That the right of priesthood which holds the keys of the kingdom will continue in the church through the lineage of the Elders of the Church—who are legal heirs alongside Joseph Smith the priesthood—until THE RESTORATION OF ALL THINGS. (see Doctrine and Covenants section 86: verse 10 and that this priesthood would be “a light to the Gentiles and through this priesthood a savior unto my people Israel. The Lord hath said it. Amen.” (D&C 86:11).

It is the LDS church who administers by authority the ordinances of the Gospel for the living AND THE DEAD which is the light to the Gentiles referred to in section 86. Heber C Kimball testified that Joseph Smith “actually saw” in vision the early leaders of the church and declared that they were all of “one stock” and the same chosen lineage.

“We were positively heirs of the Priesthood; for he had

seen us as such in his vision.” By name Elder Kimball listed himself, said that there were some twenty or thirty others that Joseph mentioned by name. (JOD 5:215-216) In 1837, The Prophet Joseph Smith received another revelation concerning the 12 Apostles which is recorded in Section 112 of the Doctrine and Covenants.

“For Verily, I say unto you, the keys of the dispensation which ye have received, have come down to the fathers; and LAST OF ALL being sent down from heaven unto.”

Joseph F Smith taught:

What is meant by the Priesthood coming down from the fathers, and that it must needs remain through the lineage of the Elders of the Church?

“It means simply this, that the Priesthood has come down from those who held it in ancient days and has been conferred upon men in this day according to promise, because they are of the seed of Joseph of the tribe of Ephraim. For the Lord promised to bless the children of Ephraim in the latter days with His power. And when the Church was established it was with the promise that it was never again to be destroyed; therefore, it must needs be that Priesthood remain through the lineage of the Elders of the Church,”

Wilford Woodruff

Speaking to the body of Saints:

“We are called of God. We have been gathered from the distant nations, and our lives have been hid with Christ in God, but we have not known it. The Lord has been watching over us from the hour of our birth. We are the seed of Ephraim, and of Abraham, and of Joseph, who was sold into Egypt, and these are the instruments that God has kept in the spirit world to come forth in these latter days to take hold of this kingdom and build its up.” Journal of

Discourses 22:233

I say to the brethren and sisters—you have your appointment; the Lord has raised up these Elders of Israel, and I can prove from the Book of Doctrine and Covenants that you received the Priesthood from eternity, and your lives have been hid with Christ in God, and you knew it not. D&C 86:8-11 You are literally and lawfully heirs of the Priesthood through the lineage of your fathers, and that Priesthood will continue throughout eternity, therefore you have received your appointment, and the Lord looks to you to build up his Zion and kingdom upon the earth. Wilford Woodruff

Bruce R. McConkie

Well, we are latter-day Israel; we are part of the seed of Abraham; we hold the power and authority of this priesthood; we are a light to the gentile nations, and as a result we are under command to carry the message of salvation to them. But we are also chosen and appointed to be saviors to Israel itself, to the seed of Abraham—to the whole kingdom and nation of people of the chosen lineage, who have lived in all the days since Abraham—whether they lived when the gospel was here or whether they did not. (Conference Report, April 1959, Afternoon Meeting 118.)

The Second Comforter Only Via Priesthood – Kimberly Smith

To me it is simple, we can't walk and talk to God without Priesthood and Priesthood is only received through covenant. And covenants are only made through ordinances. The Lord said of the Melchizedek Priesthood: "Therefore, in the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest. "And without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the priesthood, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh." (D&C 84:20-21.) I don't know how any more plain and clear that can be. The Oath and Covenant of the Priesthood is what allows Jesus Christ to appear to men in the flesh. But I realize how pleasing it is to the natural man to believe that Jesus Christ will just appear to them willy nilly to satisfy their pride and vain ambitions and to those who haven't made covenants through sacred ordinances and received an oath and covenant of the Priesthood. Why would Jesus Christ appear to men to teach them and give them revelations unless they have been sufficiently tried and tested and have proven that they will obey everything that proceeds from the mouth of God. I usually run in the opposite direction of anyone teaching a second comforter without priesthood and ordinances. I hope that others will do the same and no more be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.

[Note- the priesthood had to be restored, and so God came to Joseph Smith as a lad without priesthood. But now that it's here, the regular pattern is in place, namely that God only appears to those with the priesthood.]

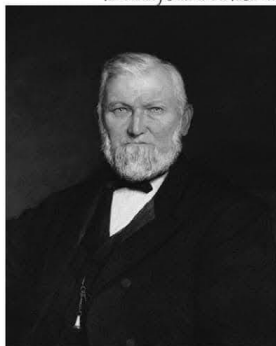
[Note- it is a possibility for there to be some exceptions to this as evident by some other quotations.]

The Only True & Accurate History of the
Prophet Joseph Smith – Analysis by
Kimberly Smith

Joseph Smith History is True

"we are satisfied that a history more correct in details than this was never published.."

Revealed Principles
Remaining True to the Restoration



When church historians George A. Smith and Wilford Woodruff completed their publication of the History of Joseph Smith, down to the 8th of August, 1844, ... they expressed themselves upon the correctness of what they had published in the following manner:

"The History of Joseph Smith is now before the world, and we are satisfied that a history more correct in details than this was never published. We, therefore, hereby bear our testimony to all the world, into whom these words shall come, that the History of Joseph Smith is true, and is one of the most authentic histories ever written."

UNPOPULAR TRUTH

The only TRUE and ACCURATE history of the Prophet Joseph Smith is the history written by the Prophet Joseph Smith himself and the Apostles.

I believe that Those who advance theories about the Life and Character of Joseph Smith—such as the accusation that Joseph Smith was a money/treasure digger will be judged from the records Joseph Smith himself left of his own life.

The Prophet Joseph Smith stated:

“For the last three years I have a record of all my acts and proceedings; for I have kept several good, faithful, and efficient clerks in constant employ; they have accompanied me everywhere, and carefully kept my history, and they have written down what I have done, where I have been, and what I have said; therefore my enemies cannot charge me with any day, time, or place, but what I have written testimony to prove my actions, and my enemies cannot prove anything against me.”

"History, 1838–1856, volume F-1 [1 May 1844–8 August 1844]," p. 58, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed October 17, 2018,

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words shall come, that the History of Joseph Smith is true, and is one of the most authentic histories ever written."

Stand with the Prophet

Joseph's revelations are a source of controversy for many. In this book, we will examine his teachings and related doctrines on plural marriage, church succession, temples, and other foundations of the restoration.

This book does not endorse plural marriage, but it recognizes that much good came from it when it was under the Lord's direction for the saints, as in the days of the ancient patriarchs.

This book responds to popular claims by detractors such as Michelle Stone and the Church of Christ group.

This book establishes that Joseph Smith initiated and taught plural marriage, as required by the Lord for a period of time in this dispensation.

It demonstrates that the temple ordinances are required for salvation in the kingdom of God.

It demonstrates that Brigham Young was the only rightful legal heir to continue the work of the kingdom of God, and that he did so with inspiration and righteousness. Brigham carried on the teachings and work of Joseph Smith.