

Joseph Smith Ministries

VOL. 1

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NO. 3

“LAY DOWN THE FENCES AND FIND COMMON GROUND”



Joseph F. Smith

is the son of Arthur Smith, the grandson of Alexander Smith, and the great-grandson of Joseph Smith, Jr. He comes in Christ's name to invite all those who believe in the Book of Mormon and the restored gospel to prepare for Zion's redemption.



✘ The Willing & Obedient ✘

“It shall come to pass, they that are left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even everyone that is written among the living in Jerusalem”
(Isaiah 4:2)

THE HOLY CITY WILL BE

The Pilgrims' success in the New World motivated Puritans to seek refuge in America.

John Winthrop reminded his fellow passengers on the Arabela, “We must consider that we shall be as a City upon a Hill.”

Joseph's descendants were to settle in Joseph's Land and become an

Ensign to all other nations.

Thousands, no, tens of thousands came—seed planted and destined to rise to prominence during the endtime. We believe that our day is that endtime.

America's earliest settlers believed in that destiny. And we do too!



February Schedule

Joseph will preach each Friday and teach a class each Saturday during the remaining weeks in February. Come, hear, for the time of preparation is short.

Preaching

Friday, February 10 7:00 PM
Friday, February 17, 7:00 PM
Friday, February 24, 7:00 PM

Class

Saturday, February 11, 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 18, 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 25, 7:00 PM

All above events at 801 W 23 St, Independence, MO



The Appointed Place

“For the Lord shall comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody” (Isa 51:3).

As the early church ministry began to develop the hope and the promise of that Zion so often mentioned in the scriptures, it became a magnet that must have pulled at their heart strings. As some received their call to labor in the Lord's vineyard, the charge was given to keep the commandments and push forward, and establish the cause of that Zion.

In a revelation given in December 1830 we find a portion that is interesting: *“And righteousness and truth will I cause to sweep the earth as with a flood, to gather out my own elect from the four quarters of the earth unto a place which I shall prepare; a holy city, that my people may gird up their loins, and be looking forth for the time of my coming; for there shall be my tabernacle, and it shall be called Zion, a New Jerusalem” (D&C 36:12f-g).*

I believe this is the first time that the terms *Zion*, and *New Jerusalem* are mentioned together in the revelations. Surely Joseph and Oliver, along with those who had studied the Book of Mormon, were familiar with the references appearing in the Book, although at this time the location had not been disclosed for the establishment of this city and the land of Zion. I am sure that there was great anticipation for that special information. In June 1831, a revelation was given for Joseph and several elders to take their journey to the land of Missouri

“I, the Lord, will make known unto you what I will that ye shall do from this time until the next Conference, which shall be held in Missouri, upon the land which I will consecrate unto my people, which are a remnant of Jacob, and those who are heirs according to the covenant. Wherefore, verily I unto you, Let my servants Joseph Smith, Jr., and Sidney

Continued next page

Support Joseph

Joseph has a message and a plan. The time of Zion's redemption is now. You, along with fellow believers, can begin preparing for it today with real and concrete efforts.

Taking this message and promoting this plan takes money. We depend on your contributions. With your support Joseph will go to Utah this spring. All contributions are tax deductible. Please send your contributions to **The Joseph Smith Support Fund**, PO Box 774, Blue Springs, Mo 64013. Thank you for your support.

Follow Joseph on the Web

For those who use the Internet, you may find up-to-date information at our website. Either www.josephsmithministries.org or www.jfsm.org will take you to it. You may contact us through that site or write us at the address to the left.

Want Your own Newsletter?

If you are not receiving your own Newsletter, please request one by writing us or signing up at www.jfsm.org/newsletter.html.

“I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counselors as at the beginning; afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness the faithful city” (Isa 1:26).

Rigdon, take their journey as soon as preparations can be made to leave their homes, and journey to the land of Missouri” (D&C 52:1b-2a).

We would consider the mode of travel in those days rather crude and difficult. They traveled partway by horse and carriage, some by boat or raft. But from St Louis to Jackson County, Missouri, they walked—no paved roads, no well defined paths, few places to take rest other than the forest floor. This journey was taken during the month of July. I would expect the weather to have been quite hot and humid. Arriving in Jackson County the last of July 1831, a revelation was received concerning the land and location of Zion.

“Hearken, O ye elders of my church saith the Lord your God, who have assembled yourselves together, according to my commandments, in this land which is the land of Missouri, which is the land which I have appointed and consecrated for the gathering of the Saints: wherefore this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion. And thus saith the Lord your God, If you will receive wisdom here is wisdom. Behold, the place which is now called Independence, is the Center Place, and the spot for the temple is lying westward upon a lot which is not far from the courthouse” (D&C 57:1a-1d).

I find this piece of history so very exciting, because I see that it is a fulfillment of a prophecy given thousands of years ago through Nathan the prophet to King David. David had purposed to build a house unto the Lord, but the Lord revealed to David through Nathan that he was not to build a house, but rather that his descendant would build a house unto the Lord. (That’s another story). Instead, the Lord told David the following: *“Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them anymore, as before time” (2 Sam 7:10).*

You will notice in the quotation from Section 57 of the Doctrine and Covenants listed above, I have underlined two phrases: *land of Missouri* and *I have appointed*. The land of Missouri was designated as the land for the gathering. In the second book of Samuel, chapter 7, verse 10, quoted above, you will also note that I have underlined, *I will appoint*. He says in Section 57 that He has appointed the place for His people, thus fulfilling that promise to King David some 3000 years ago.

I believe that Joseph and the Saints were aware of this prophecy. I also feel sure that tears of pure joy must have flowed down their cheeks upon the fulfillment of it.

One hundred eighty one years ago the Saints came to Jackson County Missouri. They appointed the place, dedicated the spot for the Temple and begun the gathering of the Lord’s people. It was a good start, but so much of the promise of Zion has remained unfulfilled. After the dark and cloudy, some of the faithful returned to the land of Zion and began building it up, but no longer. The effort to build Zion waned. Many saints have become sad and discouraged because the work remains unfinished. They are also disheartened over the condition of the Church at this time. But I am reminded of a statement of the Lord in the book of Isaiah: *“The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand” (Isa 14:24).*

God’s promise will come to pass. If we are faithful, we will see that shining city set on a hill. We will hear people say, *“Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob” (Mic 4:2).* Then, Zion will be glorious.

Joseph F Smith

Joseph Smith Ministries

PREPARING THE FAITHFUL FOR THE TIME



TRIBULATION AND ZION'S REDEMPTION

JOSEPH SMITH *Ministries*

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