

Joseph Smith Ministries

VOL. 2

JANUARY 2013

NO. 1

“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* ✠

“Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together.”
(Is 1:27-28)

THE APPROACHING JUDGMENT

Our society is uneasy. Simmering underneath the surface is the fear that great difficulties lie ahead for America.

People are stockpiling food, weapons, water and ammunition. Pastors in numerous churches are lifting warning voices.

America was once a Christian nation whose laws reflected Biblical morals. Not anymore.



God did not overlook Israel's sins or the wrongs committed in Sodom. He will not ignore America's sins.

It is destined to house God's kingdom. What can withstand His will?

January Schedule

The church in Sri Lanka asked Joseph to come, but he could not. He sent videos for the church there. The national council received us well.

An Apology

A missionary trip to Sri Lanka has delayed the publication and distribution of January's newsletter. The Sri Lankan church was exiled and left without support or friends. We have found a wonderful people and a believing church. People who felt abandoned because of their religious beliefs have found new friends and support. However, preparations for the trip and the trip itself prevented an early distribution. Please accept our apologies.



But For A Season

Jesus told the faithful in ancient America, *“If it so be that the church is built upon my gospel, then will the Father shew forth his own works in it; but if it be not built upon my gospel, and is built upon the works of men, or upon the works of the devil, verily I say unto you, They have joy in their works for a season, and by and by the end cometh, and they are hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence there is no return”* (3 Ne 12:22-23). Those disciples built up the Church of Christ on the gospel, which Jesus gave them. After several generations of peace and harmony, a unity so great the the record states, *“Surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God”* (4 N 1:19), contention and vice began creeping back. The church fragmented and its members were finally destroyed by a great war. Those who perpetrated the changes enjoyed their deeds for a short time before their destruction came.

Jesus restored His church almost 183 years ago. The Lord said, *“Verily, verily I say unto you, that this church have I established and called forth out of the wilderness; and even so will I gather mine elect from the four quarters of the earth”* (D&C 32:2a). What a great outpouring of spiritual manifestations attended them. Even after Joseph’s death and the fragmentation that happened then, God blessed faithful saints and returned them to the land of Zion, fulfilling His promise: *“They that remain and are pure in heart shall return and come to their inheritances; they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy; to build up the waste places of Zion”* (D&C 98:4g).

The Reorganization claimed to be that body of faithful saints. The same spiritual manifestations attended them. They remained founded on the gospel of Jesus. But that changed. That church fragmented and continues to crumble. Now, it is starting to promote lasciviousness, contrary to the gospel of Christ. Those who promote it have their joy, as faithful saints mourn: but that joy is only for a season. Its end is coming. The Covenants warn those who returned to the land of Zion, *“If they pollute their inheritances, they shall be thrown down; for I will not spare them if they pollute their inheritances”* (D&C 100:3c).

Support Joseph

Joseph has a message and a plan. The time of tribulation is very near and Zion’s redemption is just as close. You, along with fellow believers, can begin preparing today. And you can help others, too.

We depend on your contributions to take Joseph’s message to those who seek his ministry. Please send your tax deductible 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.

King of Kings

Isaiah prophesied the revelation of a sealed book, which the unlearned lad could not read. That sealed book refers to the Book of Mormon. Probably overlooked is that the sealed portion of the book is the focus of Isaiah's prophecy, not the unsealed portion that Joseph translated. Important to today's situation is the chapter that precedes Isaiah's prophecy about the sealed portion. It speaks against the drunkards of Ephraim: "*Woe to the crown of pride, to the drunkards of Ephraim*" (Is 28:1). Since the Bible clearly states that the book would be sealed "*even to the time of the end*" (Dan 12:4), the prophecy about the drunkards of Ephraim must also be for the last days.

The scriptures reveal that Ephraim will be the first people assembled in the land of Zion. While describing the gathering, Jeremiah revealed, "*Ephraim is my firstborn*" (Jer 31:9). The Lord told the early church, "*The rebellious shall be cut off out of the land of Zion, and shall be sent away, and shall not inherit the land; for, verily, I say that the rebellious are not of the blood of Ephraim*" (D&C 64:7b). That text was the last printed in the Book of Commandments before the mob destroyed the press. Church members were too rebellious in those days to inherit the land of Zion or build the holy city.

God promised that the faithful would return: "*They that remain and are pure in heart shall return and come to their inheritances; they and their children, with songs of everlasting joy; to build up the waste places of Zion*" (D&C 98:4g). A number of the original church members returned to the land of Zion beginning in 1867. Some were members of the Church of Christ, Temple Lot and most were members of the Reorganization. While their return has not completed the redemption of Zion, latter-day revelation implies that when it is, Ephraim will receive the rest of scattered Israel: "*They shall bring forth their rich treasures unto the children of Ephraim my servants . . . and then shall they fall down and be crowned with glory, even in Zion, by the hands of the servants of the Lord, even the children of Ephraim*" (D&C 108:6c-d).

Isaiah's prophecy about the drunkards of Ephraim describes descendants of the faithful who returned to the land of Zion before Zion is redeemed. They were supposed to build up the waste places of Zion and may have gotten off to a good start, but what happened?

The lands that were given to the RLDS Church for inheritances in Zion are being sold. Plans for building the Temple on the dedicated spot are abandoned. Worse yet, Restoration teachings are being discarded for new tenets, some of which are abominable. Isaiah's prediction that latter-day Ephraim will be drunken describes the present actions of churches that returned to the land of Zion as promised.

Isaiah revealed that the drunkards of Ephraim would make "*a covenant with death, and with hell*" (Is 28:15). Perhaps the changes in teachings and morals that have intoxicated many Restoration members are because of a pact to revise and remake the Restoration. What greater perversion is there than to sanction homosexual acts? God decreed, "*Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination*" (Lev 18:22).

There is a limit to God's patience. He revealed what would happen to the saints who returned to the land of Zion and misused His blessing: "*If they pollute their inheritances, they shall be thrown down*" (D&C 100:3c). When the people who profess to be His fully pollute God's work, He will overthrow them. Isaiah noted, "*Your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand*" (Is 28:18). God's intervention will save His work and His people. He promised "*that I would let fall the sword of mine indignation in the behalf of my people; and even as I have said, it shall come to pass. Mine indignation is soon to be poured out without measure upon all nations, and this will I do when the cup of their iniquity is full*" (D&C 98:4b-c).

Does the endorsement of homosexuality make "*the cup of their iniquity full?*" We do not know. But we do know what happened to Sodom and Gomorrah. It is time for the Lord's people to flee fornication and every evil. It is time to stand on holy ground, for the Lord's indignation approaches.

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PREPARING THE FAITHFUL FOR A TIME OF



TRIBULATION AND ZION'S REDEMPTION

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