

# Joseph Smith Ministries

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“LAY DOWN THE FENCES AND FIND COMMON GROUND”

## ✠ The Willing & Obedient ✠

“Behold, the Lord hath a mighty and strong one.” (Is 28:2)

### ONE MIGHTY AND STRONG

On Tuesday, November 27, 1832 Joseph Smith, Jr. wrote W. W. Phelps. His letter prophesied a future deliverer: *“I the Lord God will send one mighty and strong . . . to set in order the house of God.”*

Paul also wrote about a deliverer when *“The fullness of the Gentiles be come in. Then all Israel shall be saved; as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob”* (Rom 11:26). Paul referred to a text from Isaiah: *“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him. And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and*

*unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob”* (Is 59:20).

In 1900, a joint committee of the Church of Christ and RLDS Church agreed to several items. One endorsed the *One Mighty and Strong* prophecy as a revelation. The Church of Christ always maintained Jesus Christ is that deliverer.

The RLDS representatives left it an open matter, but reported that his *“leading features”* are *“characteristic of Jesus Christ.”*

Joseph F. Smith believes that the *“One Mighty and Strong”* is Jesus Christ. He is certainly the Redeemer of Israel.



### 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.*



### Our Hope In Zion

*The Rally and Workshop entitle Our Hope In Zion and scheduled for September has been postponed. The tentative dates are October 18-19. We will keep you informed.*



## The Work of God (Part 5)

In the past four parts (May—Aug 2013) I examined the work of God that Jesus promised to finish. That work is the perfecting of His kingdom. I have followed its sojourn from the time of the Jews until it was restored in America. I reviewed how the saints entered the land of Zion, but failed. God drove them out. He had already told them, *“Behold, the Lord requireth the heart and a willing mind; and the willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land of Zion in these last days; and 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, wherefore they shall be plucked out?”* (D&C 64:7a-b).

Joseph Smith, Jr. brought this warning two years before the Saints were driven out. The revelation came on September 11, 1831, at Kirtland, Ohio and was primarily directed toward the elders who were preparing to leave for Zion. Their lackadaisical obedience of it caused their banishment.

What was lost when the saints were *“cut off the land?”* Besides losing the land of Zion, they lost divine favor. They were *“scourged from city to city, and from synagogue to synagogue, and but few shall stand to receive an inheritance”* (D&C 63:8e). Perhaps, most importantly, they lost a perfected ministry.

Just before their expulsion the Lord gave the saints one last chance to obey. He commanded, *“It is my will that an house should be built unto me in the land of Zion, like unto the pattern which I have given you; yea, let it be built speedily by the tithing of my people: behold, this is the tithing and the sacrifice which I, the Lord, require at their hands, that there may be an house built unto me for the salvation of Zion; for a place of thanksgiving, for all Saints, and for a place of instruction for all those who are called to the work of the ministry, in all their several callings, and offices; that they may be perfected in the understanding of their ministry; in theory; in principle and in doctrine; in all things pertaining to the kingdom of God on the earth, the keys of which kingdom have been conferred upon you”* (D&C 94:3a-d).

What a difference their obedience would have brought, but they never started. The Lord wanted to bring His ministry to perfection in His House that He commanded (Continued on next page)

### Support Joseph

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

Taking this message and promoting this plan takes money. We depend on your contributions. They will help send Joseph where he is needed. 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](http://www.josephsmithministries.org) or [www.jfsm.org](http://www.jfsm.org) will take you to it. You may contact us through that site or write us at the address to the left.

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## The Work of God (Part 4)

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to be built. With a perfected ministry He would have been able to bring His Saints to perfection. That is His desire, a people prepared to take their place in the House of the God of Jacob and to be an example to the whole world. Does Jesus not want to present a perfected kingdom to His Father (1 Cor 15:24)? Did He not build His Church to bring the saints to perfection (Eph 4:11-13)? It is easy to look back and pine at what could have been, but the victory is in the future. The Lord promised, *“The works, and the designs, and the purposes of God, cannot be frustrated, neither can they come to naught, for God doth not walk in crooked paths; neither doth he turn to the right hand nor to the left; neither doth he vary from that which he hath said; therefore his paths are straight and his course is one eternal round. Remember, remember, that it is not the work of God that is frustrated, but the work of men”* (D&C 2:1-2). The Lord will complete His work by perfecting His kingdom.

I believe that Jesus Christ is mighty and strong and that He will come and set the church in order. It is certainly out of order today. This event is prophesied by Isaiah: *“It shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth”* (Is 11:11-12).

The early church thought that 1830 was the second time in which the Lord tried to gather Israel. I cannot find a previous time when the Lord tried before to gather the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah. Jesus’ disciples asked the Savior just before He ascended into heaven if He intended to restore the kingdom to Israel at that time. Jesus replied, *“It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”* (Acts 1:7-8). Jesus did not restore the kingdom to Israel, neither did He try to gather them after His resurrection. I believe that the 1830 period was the first time He tried to gather them.

The Book of Mormon also predicts a second attempt to gather Israel. Jacob prophesied, *“In the day that he shall set his hand again the second time to recover his people, is the day, yea, even the last time, that the servants of the Lord shall go forth in his power, to nourish and prune his vineyard; and after that, the end soon cometh”* (Jac 4:3). According to Zenos’ parable, this second time is when *“the servants did go, and labor with their might; and the Lord of the vineyard labored also with them; and they did obey the commandments of the Lord of the vineyard, in all things”* (Jac 3:140). That prediction does not describe the church in 1830 or any time up until today. Jesus did not personally work along side His servants then, although He gave them the power of the Holy Ghost. Jesus has reserved His personal ministry in the gathering of Israel to a day when Zion is liberated. He promised, *“Ye must needs be led out of bondage by power, and with a stretched out arm; and as your fathers were led at the first, even so shall the redemption of Zion be. Therefore, let not your hearts faint, for I say not unto you as I said unto your fathers, Mine angel shall go up before you, but not my presence; but I say unto you, Mine angels shall go before you, and also my presence, and in time ye shall possess the goodly land”* (D&C 100:3e-f). When Zion is redeemed, Jesus will send His presence among His people. This is the second time in which He will set His hand to recover His people. And that time is coming soon.

The Lord will come and let out His vineyard to a people who will gladly and wholeheartedly give Him their hearts. They will willingly obey His every command. He will perfect their ministry. He promised, *“Therefore, let your hearts be comforted, for all things shall work together for good to them that walk uprightly, and to the sanctification of the church; for I will raise up unto myself a pure people, that will serve me in righteousness; and all that call on the name of the Lord and keep his commandments, shall be saved. Even so. Amen”* (D&C 97:4c-d).

Joseph F. Smith

# Joseph Smith Ministries

## PREPARING THE FAITHFUL FOR A TIME OF



## TRIBULATION AND ZION'S REDEMPTION

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