

- B₁ Behold, I, the Lord, who was crucified for the sins of the world, give unto you a commandment
- B₂ that you shall forsake the world. 3
Take upon you mine ordination, even that of an elder,
- B₃ to preach faith and repentance and remission of sins, according to my word, and the reception of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands; 4
- B₂ And also to be an agent unto this church in the place which shall be appointed by the bishop,
- B₄ according to commandments which shall be given hereafter. 5
- B₁ And again, verily I say unto you,
- B₂ you shall take your journey with my servants Joseph Smith, Jun., and Sidney Rigdon. 6
- B₃ Behold, these are the first ordinances which you shall receive;
- B₄ and the residue shall be made known in a time to come, according to your labor in my vineyard. 7
- A₁ And again, I would that ye should learn that
- A₂ he only is saved who endureth unto the end. Even so. Amen.

Section 54

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to Newel Knight, at Kirtland, Ohio, June 1831. HC 1:180-181. Members of the Church in the branch at Thompson, Ohio, were divided on questions having to do with the consecration of properties. Selfishness and greed were manifest, and Lemam Copley had broken his covenant to consecrate his large farm as a place of inheritance for the saints arriving from Colesville, New York. Ezra Thayre was also involved in the controversy. As a consequence, Newel Knight (president of the branch at Thompson) and other elders had come to the Prophet asking how to proceed. The Prophet inquired of the Lord and received this revelation. See also Section 56, which is a continuation of the matter.

- A Behold, thus saith the Lord,
even Alpha and Omega,
the beginning and the end,
even he who was crucified for the sins of the world--2
- B Behold, verily, verily, I say unto you, my servant Newel Knight, you shall stand fast in the office whereunto I have appointed you. 3
- C And if your brethren desire to escape their enemies,
- D let them repent of all their sins, and become truly humble before me and contrite. 4
- E And as the covenant which they made unto me has been broken, even so it has become void and of none effect. 5
- F And wo to him by whom this offense cometh, for it had been better for him that he had been drowned in the depth of the sea. 6
- E But blessed are they who have kept the covenant
- D and observed the commandment, for they shall obtain mercy. 7

- C Wherefore, go to now and flee the land, lest your enemies come upon you;
and take your journey,
and appoint whom you will to be your leader, and to pay moneys for you. 8
And thus you shall take your journey
into the regions westward, unto the land of Missouri, unto the borders of the Lamanites. 9
- B And after you have done journeying, behold, I say unto you, seek ye a living like unto men, until I
prepare a place for you. 10 And again, be patient in tribulation until I come;
- A and, behold,
I come quickly, and
my reward is with me, and
they who have sought me early shall find rest to their souls. Even so. Amen.

Section 55

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to William W. Phelps, at Kirtland, Ohio, June 1831. HC 1:184-186. William W. Phelps, a printer, and his family had just arrived at Kirtland, and the Prophet sought the Lord for information concerning him.

- A₁ Behold, thus saith the Lord unto you, my servant William, yea, even the Lord of the whole earth,
A₂ thou art called and chosen;
- B and after thou hast been baptized by water, which if you do with an eye single to my glory,
C you shall have a remission of your sins
D and a reception of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands; 2
D And then thou shalt be ordained by the hand of my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., to be an elder
unto this church,
C to preach repentance and remission of sins
B by way of baptism
A₁ in the name of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. 3
A₂ And on whomsoever you shall lay your hands, if they are contrite before me, you shall have power to
give the Holy Spirit. 4
And again, you shall be ordained to assist my servant Oliver Cowdery to do the work of
printing, and of
selecting and
writing
books for schools in this church,
that little children also may receive instruction before me as is pleasing unto me. 5
And again, verily I say unto you, for this cause you shall take your journey with my servants Joseph Smith,
Jun., and Sidney Rigdon, that you may be planted in the land of your inheritance to do this work. 6
And again, let my servant Joseph Coe also take his journey with them. The residue shall be made known
hereafter, even as I will. Amen.

Section 56

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Kirtland, Ohio, June 1831. HC 1:186-188. Ezra Thayre, who had been appointed to travel to Missouri with Thomas B. Marsh (52:22), was unable to start on his mission when the latter was ready. Elder Thayre was not ready to depart on his journey because of his involvement in the problems at Thompson, Ohio. See heading to Section 54. The Lord answered the Prophet's inquiry on the matter by giving this revelation.

Hearken, O ye people who profess my name,

A saith the Lord your God;

B for behold, mine anger is kindled against the rebellious,

C and they shall know mine arm and mine indignation, in the day of visitation and of wrath upon the nations. 2

D₁ And he that will not

D₂ take up his cross and
follow me, and
keep my commandments,

D₃ the same shall not be saved. 3

E Behold, I, the Lord, command;

D₁ and he that will not

D₂ obey

D₃ shall be cut off in mine own due time, after I have commanded and the commandment is broken. 4

C Wherefore I, the Lord, command and revoke, as it seemeth me good;

B and all this to be answered upon the heads of the rebellious,

A saith the Lord. 5

Wherefore, I revoke the commandment which was given unto my servants Thomas B. Marsh and Ezra Thayre,

and give a new commandment unto my servant Thomas, that he shall take up his journey speedily to the land of Missouri, and my servant Selah J. Griffin shall also go with him. 6

For behold, I revoke the commandment which was given unto my servants Selah J. Griffin and Newel Knight, in consequence of the stiffneckedness of my people which are in Thompson, and their rebellions. 7

Wherefore, let my servant Newel Knight remain with them; and as many as will go may go, that are contrite before me, and be led by him to the land which I have appointed. 8

And again, verily I say unto you, that my servant Ezra Thayre must

repent of his pride,
and of his selfishness,
and obey the former commandment

which I have given him concerning the place upon which he lives. 9

And if he will do this, as there shall be no divisions made upon the land, he shall be appointed still to go to the land of Missouri; 10

Otherwise he shall

receive the money which he has paid, and shall
leave the place, and shall

be cut off out of my church, saith the Lord God of hosts; 11

And though the heaven and the earth pass away, these words shall not pass away, but shall be fulfilled. 12

And if my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., must needs pay the money, behold, I, the Lord, will pay it unto him again in the land of Missouri,

that those of whom he shall receive may be rewarded again
according to that which they do; 13

For according to that which they do
they shall receive,
even in lands for their inheritance. 14

Behold, thus saith the Lord unto my people--

you have many things to do and to repent of; for behold,
your sins have come up unto me, and are not pardoned, because

- you seek to counsel in your own ways. 15 And
- your hearts are not satisfied. And
- ye obey not the truth, but
- have pleasure in unrighteousness. 16

Wo unto you rich men,

that will not give your substance to the poor,
for your riches will canker your souls;
and this shall be your lamentation in the day of
visitation, and of
judgment, and of
indignation:

The harvest is past,
the summer is ended, and
my soul is not saved! 17

Wo unto you poor men,

whose hearts are not broken,
whose spirits are not contrite, and
whose bellies are not satisfied, and
whose hands are not stayed from laying hold upon other men's goods,
whose eyes are full of greediness, and
who will not labor with your own hands! 18

A But blessed are the poor

who are pure in heart,
whose hearts are broken, and
whose spirits are contrite,

B for they shall see the kingdom of God coming in power and great glory unto their deliverance;

C for the fatness of the earth shall be theirs. 19

B For behold, the Lord shall come, and his recompense shall be with him, and he shall reward every man,

A and the poor shall rejoice; 20 And their generations shall inherit the earth from generation to generation, forever and ever.

And now I make an end of speaking unto you. Even so. Amen.

Section 57

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, in Zion, Jackson County, Missouri, July 20, 1831. HC 1:189-190. In compliance with the Lord's command (Section 52), the elders had journeyed from Kirtland

to Missouri with many varied experiences and some opposition. In contemplating the state of the Lamanites and the lack of civilization, refinement, and religion among the people generally, the Prophet exclaimed in yearning prayer: "When will the wilderness blossom as the rose? When will Zion be built up in her glory, and where will thy Temple stand, unto which all nations shall come in the last days?" Subsequently he received this revelation.

- A Hearken, O ye elders of my church, saith the Lord your God,
- B 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. 2
- C Wherefore, this is the land of promise, and the place for the city of Zion. 3 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 a spot for the temple is lying westward, upon a lot which is not far from the court-house. 4
Wherefore, it is wisdom
that the land should be purchased by the saints, and also every tract lying westward, even unto the line running directly between Jew and Gentile; 5 And also every tract bordering by the prairies, inasmuch as my disciples are enabled to buy lands.
Behold, this is wisdom,
that they may obtain it for an everlasting inheritance. 6
- D And let my servant Sidney Gilbert stand in the office to which I have appointed him, to receive moneys, to be an agent unto the church, to buy land in all the regions round about, inasmuch as can be done in righteousness, and as wisdom shall direct. 7
And let my servant Edward Partridge stand in the office to which I have appointed him, and divide unto the saints their inheritance, even as I have commanded; and also those whom he has appointed to assist him. 8
- E And again, verily I say unto you, let my servant Sidney Gilbert plant himself in this place,
and establish a store,
that he may sell goods without fraud,
that he may obtain money to buy lands for the good of the saints,
and that he may obtain whatsoever things the disciples may need to plant them in their inheritance. 9
- E And also let my servant Sidney Gilbert
obtain a license--behold here is wisdom, and whoso readeth let him understand--
that he may send goods also unto the people, even by whom he will as clerks employed in his service; 10
And thus provide for my saints,
that my gospel may be preached unto those who sit in darkness
and in the region and shadow of death. 11
- D And again, verily I say unto you, let my servant William W. Phelps be planted in this place, and be established as a printer unto the church. 12
And lo, if the world receive his writings--behold here is wisdom--let him obtain whatsoever he can obtain in righteousness, for the good of the saints. 13
And let my servant Oliver Cowdery assist him, even as I have commanded, in whatsoever place I shall appoint unto him,
to copy, and to correct, and select,
that all things may be right before me, as it shall be proved by the Spirit through him.

- C And thus let those of whom I have spoken be planted in the land of Zion, as speedily as can be, with their families, to do those things even as I have spoken. 15
- B And now concerning the gathering--Let the bishop and the agent make preparations for those families which have been commanded to come to this land, as soon as possible, and plant them in their inheritance. 16
- A And unto the residue of both elders and members further directions shall be given hereafter. Even so. Amen.

Section 58

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, in Zion, Jackson County, Missouri, August 1, 1831. HC 1:190-195. On the first Sabbath after the arrival of the Prophet and party in Jackson County, Missouri, a religious service was held and two members were received by baptism. During that week, members of the Colesville saints from the Thompson Branch and others arrived. Many were eager to learn the will of the Lord concerning them in the new place of gathering.

Hearken, O ye elders of my church,
and give ear to my word,
and learn of me
what I will concerning you,
and also concerning this land unto which I have sent you. 2

For verily I say unto you, blessed is he that keepeth my commandments, whether in life or in death; and he that is faithful in tribulation, the reward of the same is greater in the kingdom of heaven. 3

- A Ye cannot behold with your natural eyes, for the present time,
- B the design of your God concerning those things
- C which shall come hereafter,
- D and the glory which shall follow
- E after much tribulation. 4
- E For after much tribulation
- D come the blessings.
- C Wherefore the day cometh
- B that ye shall be crowned with much glory;
- A the hour is not yet, but is nigh at hand. 5

Remember this, which I tell you before, that you may lay it to heart, and receive that which is to follow. 6

Behold, verily I say unto you, for this cause I have sent you--

- that you might be obedient, and
- that your hearts might be prepared
to bear testimony of the things which are to come; 7 And also
- that you might be honored
in laying the foundation, and in bearing record of the land upon which the Zion of God
shall stand; 8 And also
- that a feast of fat things might be prepared
for the poor;

yea, a feast of fat things, of wine on the lees well refined,
 that the earth may know that the mouths of the prophets shall not fail; 9
 Yea, a supper of the house of the Lord, well prepared,
 unto which all nations shall be invited. 10

First,
 the rich and
 the learned,
 the wise and
 the noble; 11

And after that cometh the day of my power;
 then shall
 the poor,
 the lame, and
 the blind, and
 the deaf,

come in unto the marriage of the Lamb, and
 partake of the supper of the Lord,
 prepared for the great day to come. 12

Behold, I, the Lord, have spoken it. 13 And

- that the testimony might go forth from Zion,
 yea, from the mouth of the city of the heritage of God--14

Yea, for this cause I have sent you hither,

and have selected my servant Edward Partridge, and have appointed unto him his mission in this
 land.

But if he repent not of his sins, which are unbelief and blindness of heart, let him take heed
 lest he fall. 16

Behold his mission is given unto him, and it shall not be given again. 17

A And whoso standeth in this mission is appointed to be a judge in Israel, like as it was in ancient days,

B₁ to divide the lands of the heritage of God unto his children; 18
 And to judge his people by the testimony of the just,

B₂ and by the assistance of his counselors,

C according to the laws of the kingdom

D which are given by the prophets of God. 19

C For verily I say unto you, my law shall be kept on this land. 20

B₁ Let no man think he is ruler; but let God rule him that judgeth,

B₂ according to the counsel of his own will, or, in other words, him that counseleth

A or sitteth upon the judgment seat. 21

Let no man break the laws of the land,

for he that keepeth the laws of God hath no need to break the laws of the land. 22

Wherefore, be subject to the powers that be,

until he reigns whose right it is to reign, and subdues all enemies under his feet. 23

Behold, the laws which ye have received from my hand are the laws of the church, and in this light ye shall
 hold them forth. Behold, here is wisdom. 24

And now, as I spake concerning my servant Edward Partridge, this land is the land of his residence,
 and those whom he has appointed for his counselors;

and also the land of the residence

of him whom I have appointed to keep my storehouse; 25 Wherefore, let them bring their families to this
 land,

as they shall counsel between themselves and me. 26

- A For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things;
- B₁ for he that is compelled in all things,
- B₂ the same is a slothful and not a wise servant;
- B₃ wherefore he receiveth no reward. 27
- C Verily I say, men should
be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and
do many things of their own free will, and
bring to pass much righteousness; 28
- D For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves.
- C And inasmuch as men do good they shall in nowise lose their reward. 29
- B₁ But he that doeth not anything until he is commanded, and receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart,
- B₂ and keepeth it with slothfulness,
- B₃ the same is damned. 30
- A Who am I that made man, saith the Lord, that will hold him guiltless that obeys not my commandments? 31
- a Who am I, saith the Lord, that have promised and have not fulfilled? 32
- b I command
and men obey not;
- b I revoke
and they receive not the blessing. 33
- a Then they say in their hearts: This is not the work of the Lord, for his promises are not fulfilled. But wo unto such, for their reward lurketh beneath, and not from above. 34
- And now I give unto you further directions concerning this land. 35
- It is wisdom in me that my servant Martin Harris should be an example unto the church,
in laying his moneys before the bishop of the church. 36
- And also, this is a law unto every man that cometh unto this land to receive an inheritance;
and he shall do with his moneys according as the law directs. 37
- And it is wisdom also that there should be lands purchased in Independence, for the place of the storehouse,
and also for the house of the printing. 38
- A And other directions concerning my servant Martin Harris shall be given him of the Spirit,
- B that he may receive his inheritance as seemeth him good; 39
- C And let him repent of his sins,
- D for he seeketh the praise of the world. 40
- A And also let my servant William W. Phelps stand in the office to which I have appointed him,
- B and receive his inheritance in the land; 41

C And also he hath need to repent, for I, the Lord, am not well pleased with him,

D for he seeketh to excel, and he is not sufficiently meek before me. 42

Behold, he who has repented of his sins,
the same is forgiven,
and I, the Lord, remember them no more. 43

By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins--
behold, he will confess them and forsake them. 44

And now, verily, I say concerning the residue of the elders of my church, the time has not yet come, for many years, for them to receive their inheritance in this land, except they desire it through the prayer of faith, only as it shall be appointed unto them of the Lord. 45

A For, behold, they shall push the people together from the ends of the earth. 46

B Wherefore, assemble yourselves together;

C and they who are not appointed to stay in this land, let them preach the gospel in the regions round about; and after that let them return to their homes. 47

C Let them preach by the way, and bear testimony of the truth in all places, and call upon the rich, the high and the low, and the poor to repent. 48

B And let them build up churches,

A inasmuch as the inhabitants of the earth will repent. 49

And let there be an agent appointed by the voice of the church, unto the church in Ohio, to receive moneys to purchase lands in Zion. 50

And I give unto my servant Sidney Rigdon a commandment,
that he shall write
a description of the land of Zion,
and a statement of the will of God,
as it shall be made known by the Spirit unto him; 51

And an epistle and subscription,
to be presented unto all the churches to obtain moneys, to be put into the hands of the bishop, of himself or the agent, as seemeth him good or as he shall direct, to purchase lands for an inheritance for the children of God. 52 For, behold, verily I say unto you, the Lord willeth that the disciples and the children of men should open their hearts, even to purchase this whole region of country, as soon as time will permit. 53
Behold, here is wisdom. Let them do this lest they receive none inheritance, save it be by the shedding of blood. 54

And again, inasmuch as there is land obtained, let there be workmen sent forth of all kinds unto this land, to labor for the saints of God. 55

Let all these things be done in order; and let the privileges of the lands be made known from time to time, by the bishop or the agent of the church. 56

And let the work of the gathering be not in haste, nor by flight; but let it be done as it shall be counseled by the elders of the church at the conferences, according to the knowledge which they receive from time to time. 57

And let my servant Sidney Rigdon consecrate and dedicate this land, and the spot for the temple, unto the Lord. 58

And let a conference meeting be called; and after that let my servants Sidney Rigdon and Joseph Smith, Jun., return, and also Oliver Cowdery with them, to accomplish the residue of the work which I have appointed unto them in their own land, and the residue as shall be ruled by the conferences. 59

And let no man return from this land except he bear record by the way, of that which he knows and most assuredly believes. 60

Let that which has been bestowed upon Ziba Peterson be taken from him; and let him stand as a member in the church, and labor with his own hands, with the brethren, until he is sufficiently chastened for all his sins; for he confesseth them not, and he thinketh to hide them. 61

Let the residue of the elders of this church, who are coming to this land, some of whom are exceedingly blessed even above measure, also hold a conference upon this land. 62

And let my servant Edward Partridge direct the conference which shall be held by them. 63

And let them also return, preaching the gospel by the way, bearing record of the things which are revealed unto them. 64

For, verily, the sound must go forth from this place into all the world, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth--the gospel must be preached unto every creature, with signs following them that believe. 65

And behold the Son of Man cometh. Amen.

Section 59

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, in Zion, Jackson County, Missouri, August 7, 1831. HC 1:196-201. Preceding his record of this revelation, the Prophet writes descriptively of the land of Zion wherein the people were then assembled. The land was consecrated, as the Lord had directed, and the site for the future temple was dedicated. The Lord makes these commandments especially applicable to the saints in Zion.

- A₁ Behold, blessed, saith the Lord, are they who have come up unto this land with an eye single to my glory, according to my commandments. 2
- A₂ For those that live
shall inherit the earth,
- A₃ and those that die
- shall rest from all their labors, and
- their works shall follow them; and
- they shall receive a crown in the mansions of my Father, which I have prepared for them. 3
- B a Yea, blessed are they whose feet stand upon the land of Zion, who have obeyed my gospel;
- b for they shall receive for their reward
the good things of the earth,
and it shall bring forth in its strength. 4
- b And they shall also be crowned
with blessings from above, yea, and
with commandments not a few, and
with revelations in their time--
- a they that are faithful and diligent before me. 5
- C Wherefore, I give unto them a commandment, saying thus: