

## Comments on Doctrine & Covenants 79

This section is typical of preceding revelations where individuals are called to preach the gospel.

1 VERILY I say unto you, that it is my will that my servant Jared Carter should go again into the eastern countries, from place to place, and from city to city, in the power of the ordination wherewith he has been ordained, proclaiming glad tidings of great joy, even the everlasting gospel.

2 And I will send upon him the Comforter, which shall teach him the truth and the way whither he shall go; 3 And inasmuch as he is faithful, I will crown him again with sheaves.

4 Wherefore, let your heart be glad, my servant Jared Carter, and fear not, saith your Lord, even Jesus Christ. Amen.

v1-4. The Lord calls Carter on a mission to the Eastern countries (v. 1), with a promise of the Spirit to guide him (v. 2) and of great success (v. 3). The Lord then concludes, admonishing Carter to rejoice and fear not, because the Lord is his Redeemer (v. 4).

v1 "Jared Carter", compare D&C 52:38, D&C 94:14.

"go again", this is apparently his second mission. According to his journal entries he was ordained an Elder in late September 1831 prior to departing on his first mission.

v2 Note the particularly Johannine flavor, cp. John 14:26, John 15:26.

## **Historical Material Pertaining to Doctrine & Covenants 79**

This section was first published in the Kirtland edition Doctrine and Covenants in 1835, pages 205-206. It was published in Times and Seasons, volume 5, number 15, page 608, dates August 15, 1844. It was published in the Millennial Star, volume 14, number 10, page 146, dated May 1, 1852.

### **Excerpt from The Revelations of the Prophet Joseph Smith**

A prominent elder and missionary during the 1830s, Carter recorded in his journal the following concerning section 79:

I at length went to Hiram [Ohio] to the Seer to inquire the will of the Lord concerning my ministry the ensuing season; and the word of the Lord came forth that showed that it was his will that I should go forth to the Eastern countries in the power of the ordinance wherewith I had been ordained, which was to the high privilege of administering in the name of Jesus Christ even to seal on earth and to build up the Church of Christ and to work miracles in the name of Christ.... Now I have received a revelation of the will of the Lord to me by the mouth of Joseph the Seer, that I should not only preach the gospel from place to place, but from city to city.

Upon returning from his mission in October 1832, Carter continued,

Now while I make this record, I remember the goodness of the Lord to me in the mission that I have lately been to the East. I have enjoyed my health continually and the Lord, notwithstanding the great opposition to this glorious work, he has blessed me.... I have been gone 6 months and 2 days. The Lord permitted me to administer the gospel to 79 souls, and many others by my instrumentality have been convinced of this most glorious work. All that have been baptized while I have been in the regions where I have been in this mission is 98, and many others have been convinced of the work that sooner or later I think will obey the work.

(Lyndon W. Cook, The Revelations of the Prophet Joseph Smith, page 169)

**Excerpt from The Evening and Morning Star**

Brothers Simeon and Jared Carter, we understand, have done wondrous works in Vermont, in breaking down prejudice in a wonderful manner. Better than one hundred have been brought into the kingdom, in a few months past, by their instrumentality. (The Evening and Morning Star, volume 1, number 9, February 1833)

**Excerpt from The Evening and Morning Star**

DEAR SIR: I am requested by brother Jared Carter, an elder in the church of Christ, to inform you, that he will pay one dollar over to the bishop in Kirtland, and wishes you to send the Evening and the Morning Star, directing it to Jeremiah Curtis, Pontiac, Oakland County, Michigan Territory. Brother Carter has been laboring in the ministry for about five weeks past, in this county, and his labors have been blest by God, to a goodly degree; he has baptized 22 persons and received them into the church of Christ, myself, and wife, are two of the above named members, for which I desire to bless the Lord. He has ordained me an elder in the church of Christ, and I earnestly desire that God will bless me, and make me faithful, to become an instrument in his hands in building up his church and kingdom in this region.

There is a great opposition to this cause in this section of country, but hope and trust, that the Lord, will over rule and glorify his name, & subdue the hearts of his people, and make them obedient to his will.

I have been traveling with brother Carter, for two weeks past; I find him to be a faithful servant of our Lord and Master. When I view the dealings of God, towards me, I feel to adore his great and holy name, that he has opened my eyes to see the wondrous things of his kingdom, which he has commenced in these last days.

I have been a professor of the Christian religion for twenty seven years, and stood among the sects, but never, until about four weeks past, have I been brought to see the errors which the different sects embrace.

Be pleased to except these few lines from a brother in the church of Christ with you, & laborer in the same great cause;

although I am not personally acquainted with you, yet my heart feels to unite with you in the same great cause of our great Redeemer.

I hope, if God shall see fit to spare my life, I shall see you in Zion before long, and converse with you upon things appertaining to the kingdom of Christ.

From your brother in the Lord.

SAMUEL BENT.

(The Evening and Morning Star, volume 1, number 11, April 1833)

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