



The Gospel Doctrine Class



Doctrine & Covenants - Lesson 13

Joseph Smith and the Word of the Lord

“But, behold, verily, verily, I say unto thee, no one shall be appointed to receive commandments and revelations in this church excepting my servant Joseph Smith, Jun.” (D&C 28:2)

A study of this lesson will help us appreciate the Prophet Joseph Smith's role in bringing forth the word of the Lord in this dispensation.

Doctrine and Covenants is the capstone, with continuing latter-day revelation. The Lord has placed His stamp of approval on both the keystone and the capstone" (Ensign, May 1987, p83).

Elder Anthony W. Ivins: "The word Prophet defined in the Hebrew language means one who has been called to denounce sin and foretell the consequences and punishment of it. He is to be above all else a preacher of righteousness, to call the people back from idolatry to faith in the living God, and when moved upon by the Spirit of the Lord, to foretell coming events. But more particularly a prophet is to be an expounder of present duties and an interpreter of the meaning and application of the written word." (Conference Report, Oct 1933)

"The Pearl of Great Price is appropriately named. Like a pearl, it is small in size but great in worth. Although it is only 61 pages long, it spans the eternities, including passages about the Grand Council in Heaven, the restoration of the gospel in the dispensation of the fulness of times, the Savior's Second Coming, the Millennium, and everlasting life. It contains valuable teachings on the Creation, the Fall, the Atonement, and the agency of mankind." (Gospel Doctrine Teacher's Manual)

President Wilford Woodruff: "I say to Israel, the Lord will never permit me or any other man who stands as president of this Church to lead you astray." (Discourses of Wilford Woodruff, p212)

Elder B.H. Roberts wrote of the Articles of Faith: "They were not produced by the labored efforts and the harmonized contentions of scholastics, but were struck off by one mind at a single effort to make a declaration of that which is most assuredly believed by the church, for one making earnest inquiry about her history and her fundamental doctrines. The combined directness, perspicuity, simplicity and comprehensiveness of this statement of the doctrine of the church is regarded as strong evidence of a divine inspiration operating upon the mind of Joseph Smith." (CHC, 2:131)

Elder LeGrand Richards: "As far as our records show, he has given us more revealed truth than any prophet who has ever lived upon the face of the earth." (Ensign, May 1981, p33)

President Ezra Taft Benson: "The Book of Mormon brings men to Christ. The Doctrine & Covenants brings men to Christ's kingdom, even The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 'the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth' (D&C 1:30)....

"The Book of Mormon is the 'keystone' of our religion, and the

Next Week's Reading Assignment

D&C 42:30-42; 51; 78; 82; 104:11-18;

Our Heritage, page 26

Doctrines Restored or Clarified Through Joseph Smith

The Doctrines	Reference
Physical nature of the Godhead	Joseph Smith—History 1:17; D&C 130:1; D&C 130:22
Our creation in God's image	Moses 6:8-9
Apostles and prophets	D&C 107:23, 33, 35, 39, 58; 112::30-32
Melchizedek Priesthood	D&C 84:19-25; 107:1-8, 18-19
Aaronic Priesthood	D&C 13; 84:18, 26-27, 84:30; 107:1, 13-14, 20
Mode of baptism	3 Nephi 11:22-26; Moroni 8:8-12; D&C 20:71-74
The gift of the Holy Ghost	D&C 20:41, 43; 35:6; 121:46
Pre mortal existence	D&C 93:29; Abraham 3:22-26
Baptism for the dead	D&C 128:16-18
Resurrection	Alma 11:42-45
The three kingdoms of glory	D&C 76:50-112; 131:1
Eternal marriage	D&C 131:1-4; 132:19
Our potential to become like Heavenly Father	D&C 88:107; 93:20; 132:20-24