

*The mighty vision of
Joseph Smith*

*Seer, translator, prophet,
first President of the Church*

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Thou shalt be called a seer, a translator, a prophet, an apostle of Jesus Christ, and elder of the church ... being inspired of the Holy Ghost to lay the foundation thereof, and to build it up unto the most holy faith.

*Doctrine and Covenants, First edition, 1835, Section XLVI
(Section 21 in modern editions)*

From the first day I knew brother Joseph to the day of his death, a better man never lived upon the face of this earth.

*Knowledge of the Doctrine of Christ – The Religions of Men, and the Religion of God – Joseph Smith – Persecutions, etc. An address delivered by **President Brigham Young**, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses, Volume I*

Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man that ever lived in it.

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 135

In the short space of twenty years, he has brought forth the Book of Mormon, which he translated by the gift and power of God, and has been the means of publishing it on two continents; has sent the fulness of the everlasting gospel, which it contained, to the four quarters of the earth; has brought forth the revelations and commandments which compose this book of Doctrine and Covenants, and many other wise documents and instructions for the benefit of the children of

men; gathered many thousands of the Latter-day Saints, founded a great city, and left a fame and name that cannot be slain.

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 135

“While I was thus in the act of calling upon God, I discovered a light appearing in my room ... a personage appeared at my bedside, standing in the air ... He had on a loose robe of most exquisite whiteness ... I could discover that he had no other clothing on but this robe, as it was open, so that I could see into his bosom.

He called me by name, and said unto me that he was a messenger sent from the presence of God to me, and that his name was Moroni; that God had a work for me to do; and that my name should be had for good and evil among all nations, kindreds, and tongues ...”

Extracts from the History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet. The Pearl of Great Price, 1921 edition

“I soon found, however, that my telling the story had excited a great deal of prejudice against me among professors of religion, and

was the cause of great persecution ... though I was an obscure boy, only between fourteen and fifteen years of age ...”

Extracts from the History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet. The Pearl of Great Price, 1921 edition

“Owing to my continuing to assert that I had seen a vision, persecution still followed me ...”

Extracts from the History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet. The Pearl of Great Price, 1921 edition

The messenger who visited us [Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery] on this occasion and conferred this Priesthood upon us, said that his name was John, the same that is called John the Baptist in the New Testament, and that he acted under the direction of Peter, James, and John, who held the keys of the Priesthood of Melchizedek, which Priesthood, he said, would in due time be conferred on us, and that I should be called the first Elder of the Church, and he (Oliver Cowdery) the second.

Extracts from the History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet. The Pearl of Great Price, 1921 edition

You read in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants how he received the Priesthood in the first place. It is there stated how Joseph received the Aaronic Priesthood. John the Baptist came to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery.

*Priesthood. Remarks made by **President Brigham Young**, 1861. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

You read in the revelation that Joseph was ordained, as it is written. When he received the Melchisedek Priesthood, he had another revelation. Peter, James, and John came to him. ... When he received this revelation in Kirtland, the Lord revealed to him that he should begin and ordain High Priests; and he then ordained quite a number.

*Priesthood. Remarks made by **President Brigham Young**, 1861. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

“We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.”

***Joseph Smith**, The Articles of Faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Pearl of Great Price, 1921 edition*

I will now give you a description of the manner in which the Book of Mormon was translated. Joseph Smith would put the seer stone into a hat, and put his face in the hat, drawing it closely around his face to exclude the light; and in the darkness the spiritual light would shine. A piece of something resembling parchment would appear, and on that appeared the writing. One character at a time would appear, and under it was the interpretation in English. Brother Joseph would read off the English to Oliver Cowdery, who was his principal scribe, and when it was written down and repeated to Brother Joseph to see if it was correct, then it would disappear, and another character with the interpretation would appear. Thus the Book of Mormon was translated by the gift and power of God, and not by any power of man. ... At times when Brother Joseph would attempt to translate, he would look into the hat in which the stone was placed, he found he was spiritually blind and could not translate ... When in this condition he would go out and pray, and when he became sufficiently humble before God, he could then proceed with the translation.

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter I, 1887

The Book [of Mormon] carries conviction with it. The wise men of this world could never write a book like it. ... Likewise many other questions of vital importance in the doctrine of Christ, which the Christian world has been contending and disputing about for ages, this Book [of Mormon] comes forth from God to explain them.

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter I, 1887

My first introduction to him [Prophet Joseph] was rather singular. I saw him out in the field with his brother Hyrum: he had on a very old hat, and was engaged shooting at a mark.

Early Events of the Church, etc. A discourse by Elder Wilford Woodruff, 1858. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

The vision given to Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon is the greatest vision I ever knew given to the children of men, incorporating more in a few pages than any other revelation I have any knowledge of.

Universal Salvation. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1860. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume VIII. 1861

Is there anything in this book [Book of Mormon] that contradicts any scientific truth?

Evidences of the Bible and Book of Mormon Compared. A discourse by Elder Orson Pratt, 1859. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

Therefore, the testimony establishing the truth of the Book of Mormon is far superior to that establishing the Bible in its present form.

Adherence to "Mormonism" – Perpetual Emigration Fund. An address by President Heber C. Kimball, 1854. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

Our religion is called "Mormonism" because the ancient records revealed to Joseph Smith were entitled the Book of Mormon, according to the instructions given to him by the Lord.

Eternal Punishment – "Mormonism", etc. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

“Mormonism” embraces all truth that is revealed and that is unrevealed, whether religious, political, scientific, or philosophical.

*Eternal Punishment – “Mormonism”, etc. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

“The word Mormon, means literally, more good.”

*Letter from **Joseph Smith** submitted to the Times and Seasons, 1843. Reproduced in Chapter XXI, page 399 of History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period I. History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, by himself. Volume V. Published by the Church, 1909*

We cannot believe any truth that exists in all the eternities of the Gods that is not embraced in our holy religion, commonly called “Mormonism.” It incorporates every truth that has been known, is known, and will be known, in all the eternities past, and in all the eternities to come; in short, it is eternal truth upon which the throne of God is founded and cannot be moved.

*Closing of Amusements – Indulging in Sin Brings Mental Darkness. Remarks made by **President Brigham Young**, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

What the world calls “Mormonism” will rule every nation. Joseph Smith and Brigham Young will be the head. ... Yet upon the words of these men the eternal destiny of the generation in which they lived hangs. Whosoever sins they remit will be remitted, and whosoever sins they retain will be retained.

Divine Government – Hostility of the United States Government Towards the Saints. A discourse by Elder Orson Hyde. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

All who confess that Joseph Smith is sent of God in the latter days, to lay the foundation of his everlasting kingdom no more to be thrown down, and will continue to keep his commandments, are born of God. ... All those who believe in their hearts and confess with their mouths that Joseph Smith is a true Prophet, at the same time trying with their might to live the holy principles Joseph the Prophet has revealed, are in possession of the Holy Spirit of God and are entitled to a fulness.

The Kingdom of God. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

... and he [Jesus] then commanded them [the Nephites] to write his sayings, and an account of the miracles he wrought among them. They did as he commanded, and they liked the writings so well that they handed them down to each succeeding Prophet until Mormon, who was born three or four ages afterwards, and he could not hand those records down any further because of apostacy, and the blasphemy and wickedness of his people, and because of the wars and troubles that spread among the people; so he made a secret deposit of those writings, and put them in the earth, and he also wrote a book and called it the "Book of Mormon," which was an abridgement of the other records, and this was hid up to the Lord, and through the interference of the Almighty, a young man, Joseph Smith, by the gift and power of God, I say, through that young man and the ministration of holy angels to him, that book came forth to the world, and it has since that time been preached and read in our language, and many others, and we rejoice in it, and have born testimony of it in the world.

The First Principles of the Gospel. Discourse by Elder Parley P. Pratt, 1855. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

I went to my Father in heaven and asked him with regard to the truth of the doctrines taught by Joseph Smith, and I know they will save all that will hearken unto them, and that those who do not will miss salvation in the celestial kingdom of God; and though Joseph Smith should steal horses every day, or gamble every night, or deny his Saviour from the crowing of the cock in the morning until sunset in the evening, I know that the doctrine he preaches is the power of God to my salvation, if I live it.

*Hints to Faultfinders, etc. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1860. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume VIII. 1861*

Joseph's hands were continually tied. Who dared to trust him with their money? Very few. He had to defend lawsuit upon lawsuit. He passed through forty-seven lawsuits, and in the most of them I was with him.

*Hints to Faultfinders, etc. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1860. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume VIII. 1861*

I know for myself that Joseph Smith was the subject of forty-eight law-suits, and the most of them I witnessed with my own eyes; but not one action could ever be made to bear against him. No law or constitutional right did he ever violate. He was innocent and virtuous ... He was pure, just, and holy, as to the keeping of the law.

*Knowledge of the Doctrine of Christ – The Religions of Men, and the Religion of God – Joseph Smith – Persecutions, etc. An address delivered by **President Brigham Young**, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume I. 1854*

The Prophet's characterization of himself:

“I am like a huge, rough stone rolling down from a high mountain; and the only polishing I get is when some corner gets rubbed off by coming in contact with something else, striking with accelerated force against religious bigotry, priestcraft, lawyer-craft, doctor-craft, lying editors, suborned judges and jurors, and the authority of perjured executives, backed by mobs, blasphemers, licentious and corrupt men and women – all hell knocking off a corner here and a corner there. Thus I will become a smooth and polished shaft in the quiver of the Almighty, who will give me dominion over all

and every one of them, when their refuge of lies shall fail, and their hiding place shall be destroyed, while these smooth-polished stones with which I come in contact become marred.”

History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Volume V, Chapter XXI, Period I.

“Don’t employ lawyers, or pay them money for their knowledge, for I have learned that they don’t know anything. I know more than they all.”

The Prophet’s speech at Nauvoo, 1843, reported by Dr. Willard Richard and Elder Wilford Woodruff. Chapter XXIV, page 466 of History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period I. History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, by himself. Volume V. Published by the Church, 1909

“I combat the errors of ages; I meet the violence of mobs; I cope with illegal proceedings from executive authority; I cut the gordian knot of powers, and I solve mathematical problems of universities, with truth – diamond truth; and God is my ‘right hand man’.”

*Letter from President **Joseph Smith** to James Arlington Bennett, Nov. 13, 1843. In: History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Volume VI, Chapter IV*

“... the fact is, that by the power of God I translated the Book of Mormon from hieroglyphics, the knowledge of which was lost to the world, in which wonderful event I stood alone, an unlearned youth, to combat the worldly wisdom and multiplied ignorances of eighteen centuries, with a new revelation, which (if they would receive the everlasting Gospel,) would open the eyes of more than eight hundred millions of people ...”

*Letter from President **Joseph Smith** to James Arlington Bennett, Nov. 13, 1843. In: History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chapter IV, Volume VI*

There is not that being that ever had the privilege of hearing the way of life and salvation set before him as it is written in the New Testament, and in the Book of Mormon, and in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants, by a Latter-day Saint, that can say that Jesus lives, that his Gospel is true; and at the same time say that Joseph Smith was not a Prophet of God.

*Knowledge of the Doctrine of Christ – The Religions of Men, and the Religion of God – Joseph Smith – Persecutions, etc. An address delivered by **President Brigham Young**, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume I. 1854*

Some of the revelations as they are now in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants have been changed and added to. Some of the changes being of the greatest importance as the meaning is entirely changed on some very important matters; as if the Lord had changed his mind a few years after he gave the revelations ...

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by a Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter VIII, 1887

Through the influence of Sydney Rigdon, Brother Joseph was led on and on into receiving revelations every year, to establish offices and doctrines which are not even mentioned in the teachings of Christ in the written word.

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter VIII, 1887

The religion embraced by the Latter-day Saints, if only slightly understood, prompts them to search diligently after knowledge. There is no other people in existence more eager to see, hear, learn, and understand truth.

True Civilization. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1860. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume VIII. 1861

... this great, sublime, beautiful, and glorious doctrine [plurality of wives], which has been revealed by the Prophet, Seer, and Revelator, Joseph Smith, who sealed his testimony with his blood, and thus revealed to the nations, things that were in ancient times, as well as things that are to come.

Celestial Marriage. A discourse delivered by Elder Orson Pratt, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses, Volume I

On the following morning, Pres. Smith took me by the arm for a walk ... he commenced to open up to me the principle of plural or celestial marriage, but I was more astonished by his asking me for my sister Almera to be his wife.

Testimony of Benjamin F. Johnson, 1870. Reprinted in The Deseret News, Oct 22, 1879

I did not ask Him for the revelation upon this subject [polygamy]. When that revelation was first read to me by Joseph Smith, I plainly saw the great trials and the abuse of it that would be made by many of the Elders, and the trouble and the persecution that it would bring upon this whole people. But the Lord revealed it, and it was my business to accept it.

Delegate Hooper – Beneficial Effects of Polygamy – Final Redemption of Cain. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1866. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume XI. 1867

A few days after my arrival at Nauvoo, when at President Joseph Smith's house, he said he wished to have some private talk with me ... he there and then explained to me the doctrine of plurality of wives. ... He further said that my sister Eliza R. Snow had been sealed to him as his wife for time and eternity.

Testimony of Lorenzo Snow, 1869. Reprinted in The Deseret News, Oct 22, 1879

... the doctrine of plurality of wives. He said that the Lord had revealed it unto him and commanded him to have women sealed to him as wives, that he foresaw the trouble that would follow and sought to turn away from the commandment, that an angel from heaven appeared before him with a drawn sword, threatening him with destruction unless he went forward and obeyed the commandment.

Testimony of Lorenzo Snow, 1869. Reprinted in The Deseret News, Oct 22, 1879

... the subject [celestial/plural marriage], in connection with the great principles of baptism, redemption and sealings for the dead, became the great themes of his [Joseph Smith's] life ...

Joseph F. Smith, The Deseret News, June 2, 1886

... as the last Pres. Geo. A. Smith repeatedly said to me and others, "The Prophet seemed irresistably moved by the power of God to establish that principle [celestial/plural marriage], not only in theory, in the hearts and minds of his brethren, but in practice also!"

Joseph F. Smith, The Deseret News, June 2, 1886

From him [Joseph] I learned that the doctrine of plural and celestial marriage is the most holy and important doctrine ever revealed to man on the earth, and that without obedience to that principle no man can ever attain to the fulness of exaltation in celestial glory.

Sworn testimony of William Clayton, 1874. Reprinted in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

And the Prophet Joseph told me personally that he had married other women, in accordance with the revealed will of God, and spoke concerning the principle as being a command of God for holy purposes.

Sworn testimony of Joseph C. Kingsbury, 1885. Reprinted in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

After giving me lengthy instructions and informations concerning the doctrine of celestial or plural marriage, he [Prophet Joseph] concluded his remarks by the words, "It is your privilege to have all the wives you want."

Sworn testimony of William Clayton, 1874. Reprinted in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

... the following named ladies ... were sealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith during the last three years of his life. ... Louisa Beman ... Fanny Alger ... Lucinda Harris ... Zina D. Huntington, afterwards the wife of Pres. Brigham Young ... Prescindia L. Huntington, afterwards the wife of Heber C. Kimball ... Eliza Roxcy Snow ... Sarah Ann Whitney, afterwards the wife of Pres. Heber C. Kimball ... Helen Mar Kimball, daughter of Pres. Heber C. Kimball and afterwards the wife of Horace K. Whitney ... Eliza M. Partridge, afterwards the wife of Amasa M. Lyman ... Emily D. Partridge, afterwards the wife of Pres. Brigham Young ... Lucy Walker, afterwards the wife of Pres. Heber C. Kimball ... Almera W. Johnson ... Malissa Lott, afterwards the wife of Ira Jones Willes ... Fanny Young, a sister of Pres. Brigham Young ... Maria Lawrence ... Sarah Lawrence ... Flora Ann Woodworth .. Ruth D.

Vose, known as the wife of Edward Sayers ... Mary Elizabeth Rollins ... Olive Frost, afterwards the wife of Pres. Brigham Young ... Rhoda Richards ... Sylvia Sessions ... Maria Winchester ... Elvira A. Cowles ... Sarah M. Cleveland

The Historical Record, edited by Andrew Jensen, Volume Six, Salt Lake City, 1887

But, says one, how have you obtained this information [about plurality of wives]? By new revelation. When was it given, and to whom? It was given to our Prophet, Seer, and Revelator, Joseph Smith, on the 12th day of July, 1843, only about eleven months before he was martyred for the testimony of Jesus.

Celestial Marriage. A discourse delivered by Elder Orson Pratt, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume I. 1854

Why do we believe in and practise polygamy? Because the Lord introduced it to his servants in a revelation given to Joseph Smith, and the Lord's servants have always practiced it.

Contrast Between the Religion of Jesus Christ as Enjoyed by the Saints and that of Professed Christianity. Remarks by President Brigham Young, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

This revelation [plurality of wives], which God gave to Joseph, was for the express purpose of providing a channel for the organization of tabernacles, for those spirits to occupy who have been reserved to come forth in the kingdom of God ... Now if any of you will deny the plurality of wives, and continue to do so, I promise that you will be damned.

Plurality of wives – The Free Agency of Man. Remarks made by President Brigham Young, 1855. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

The High Council of Nauvoo was called together by the Prophet Joseph Smith, to know whether they would accept the revelation on celestial marriage or not. ... Brother Hyrum was called upon to read the revelation. He did so, and after the reading said, "Now, you that believe this revelation and go forth and obey the same shall be saved, and you that reject it shall be damned."

Sworn testimony of Thomas Grover, 1885. Reprinted in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

... I received a powerful and irresistible testimony of the truth of plural marriage ... Shortly afterwards I consented to become the Prophet's wife.

Testimony of Lucy W. Kimball, printed in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

Early in the year 1842, Joseph Smith taught me the principle of marriage for eternity, and the doctrine of plural marriage. He said that in teaching this he realized that he jeopardized his life; but God had revealed it to him many years before as a privilege with blessings, now God had revealed it again and instructed him to teach it with commandment, as the Church could travel (progress) no further without the introduction of this principle.

Testimony of Sarah M. Kimball, printed in The Historical Record, Volume Six, 1887

... believing that their leader had received a revelation from God to practice this abomination [polygamy]. This was the first error that crept into the church. None of us detected it then. ... But we were young ... Brother Joseph and myself were only twenty-five years of age.

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter IV, 1887

... Brother Joseph received the revelation on polygamy; that he gave the doctrine to the church; that he had connection with this spiritual wife doctrine himself; and afterwards became convinced that this revelation was of the devil, and repented of this iniquity just before his death.

David Whitmer, An address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter IV, 1887

The Salt Lake apostles also excuse themselves by saying that Joseph Smith taught the spiritual-wife doctrine, but this excuse is as weak as their excuse concerning the ancient Kings and Patriarchs. Joseph Smith repented of his connection with this doctrine, and said that it was of the devil. He caused the revelations on that subject to be burned ...

Isaac Sheen, 1852, The True Latter Day Saints' Herald, published by the New Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Volume I Number 1

In the last, or in some public meeting, Joseph Smith, jr., said: if the people would let us alone, we would preach the gospel to them in peace; but, if they came to us to molest us, we

would establish our religion by the sword; and that he would become to this generation a second Mahomet.

*Deposition of **John Corrill** in criminal court of inquiry on the trial of Joseph Smith, jr., and others, for high treason and other crimes against the State, November 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841*

Joseph Smith, jr., took the pulpit, and delivered an address ... he told us that the children of God did not go to war at their own expense.

*Deposition of **Sampson Avard** in criminal court of inquiry on the trial of Joseph Smith, jr., and others, for high treason and other crimes against the State, November 1838.*

“But if Missouri will not stay her cruel hand in her unhallowed persecutions against us, I restrain you not any longer. I say in the name of Jesus Christ, by the authority of the holy priesthood, I this day turn the key that opens the heavens to restrain you no longer from this time forth. I will lead you to the battle; and if you are not afraid to die, and feel disposed to spill your blood in your own defense, you will not offend me.”

The Prophet's speech at Nauvoo, 1843, reported by Dr. Willard Richard and Elder Wilford Woodruff. In: Chapter XXIV, page 468 of History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chapter XXIV, Period I.

... Joseph Smith, the prophet, had preached, in which he said, that all the Mormons who refused to take up arms, if necessary in difficulties with the citizens, should be shot or otherwise put to death.

Affadavit of Thomas B. March, October 24, 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841

The plan of said Smith, the prophet, is to take this State, and he professes to his people to intend taking the United States, and ultimately the whole world. This is the belief of the church. ... The prophet inculcates the notion, and it is believed by every true Mormon, that Smith's prophecies are superior to the law of the land.

Affadavit of Thomas B. March, October 24, 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841

I, John N. Sapp, ... was a member of the church of the people styled Mormons, and that I left them about the 15th day of August last by stealth. ... they were building block houses, and calculated this fall to build fortifications for the protection of themselves and families in time of

war, for which they were making every arrangement ... there are betwixt eight and ten hundred men, well armed and equipped, who have taken an oath to support Joseph Smith and Lyman Wight, in opposition to the laws of the State of Missouri, or otherwise, which said men are called Danites ... they expected to be fully prepared to commence war this fall, or next spring at furthest. ... the Danites aforesaid, are sworn to cowhide any person or persons, who may say aught against Joseph Smith and Lyman Wight, and if that will not prevent them from speaking about said Smith and Wight, then they are to assassinate them.

Affidavit from John N. Sapp submitted to Governor Boggs, September 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841

“I prophesy in the name of the Lord God of Israel, unless the United States redress the wrongs committed upon the Saints in the state of Missouri and punish the crimes committed by her officers that in a few years the government will be utterly overthrown and wasted ...”

From the prophet's visit with Judge Stephen Douglas, 1843. In: Chapter XX, page 394 of History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period I. History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, by himself. Volume V. Published by the Church, 1909

For several weeks past, the Mormons have been making formidable preparations for a civil war, and one which they are pleased to call a war of extermination.

Letter from citizens of Daviess and Livingston counties to Governor Boggs, September 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841

I have heard the prophet say that he should yet tread down his enemies, and walk over their dead bodies; that if he was not let alone he would be a second Mahomet to this generation, and that he would make it one gore of blood from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Ocean; that like Mahomet, whose motto, in treating for peace, was "the Alcoran, or the Sword," so should it be eventually with us, "Joseph Smith or the Sword."

Affadavit of Thomas B. March, October 24, 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841

I have heard Joseph Smith, jr. say that he believed Mahomet was a good man; that the Koran was not a true thing, but the world belied Mahomet, as they had belied him, and that Mahomet was a true prophet.

*Deposition of **George M. Hinkle** in criminal court of inquiry on the trial of Joseph Smith, jr., and others, for high treason and other crimes against the State, November 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841*

I heard Mr. Rigdon read one of the letters from Smith, which, as I remember, was about as follows: That he knew from prophecy and from the revelation of Jesus Christ, that the enemies of the kingdom were in their hands; and that they (the Mormon church) should succeed.

*Deposition of **Sampson Averd** in criminal court of inquiry on the trial of Joseph Smith, jr., and others, for high treason and other crimes against the State, November 1838. In: Document containing the Correspondence, Orders, etc. in relation to the disturbances with the Mormons, General Assembly of the State of Missouri, 1841*

It is very easy to see that the nation that has oppressed us is going down. The Lord revealed to Joseph Smith something about the judgments that await the inhabitants of the earth, and he said in the revelations that the judgments should commence at the house of God.

Observance of the Commandments of God. Discourse by President Heber C. Kimball, 1861. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

There are many persons who have read the revelations of Joseph Smith that have had misgivings in relation to them, and they have feared that they were true; but they did not feel quite willing to believe that they would be literally fulfilled ... Any persons that have looked at the accounts published in our papers can see how rapidly and how easily the Lord can accomplish his work.

Prosperity of Zion, etc. Discourse delivered by Elder George A. Smith, 1861. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862

An Epistle from Joseph Smith the Prophet to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints / "... the earth will be smitten with a curse unless there is a welding link of some kind or other between the fathers and the children, upon some subject or other – and behold what is that subject? It is the baptism for the dead."

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 128

"I prophesy, in the name of the Lord God, that the commencement of the difficulties which will cause much bloodshed previous to the coming of the Son of Man will be in South Carolina."

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 130

"I was once praying very earnestly to know the time of the coming of the Son of Man, when I heard a voice repeat the following: Joseph, my son, if thou livest until thou art eighty-five years old, thou shalt see the face of the Son of Man; therefore let this suffice, and trouble me no more on this matter."

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 130

“If any man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, and the first give her consent, and if he espouse the second, and they are virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he justified ... And if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery ... for they are given unto him to multiply and replenish the earth, according to my commandment ... that they may bear the souls of men ...”

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 132

... Prophet Joseph Smith’s translation of the fore part of the book of Genesis is in print, and is exceedingly plain upon this matter. In this inspired translation we find the pre-existence of man clearly laid down, and that the spirits of all men, male and female, did have an existence, before man was formed out of the dust of the ground.

Celestial Marriage. A discourse delivered by Elder Orson Pratt, 1852. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume I. 1854

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Nauvoo, Illinois, recorded July 12, 1843 / "... I give unto my servant Joseph that he shall be made ruler over many things; for he hath been faithful over a few things, and from henceforth I will strengthen him."

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 132

"The Great Jehovah has ever been with me, and the wisdom of God will direct me in the seventh hour. I feel in closer communion and better standing with God than ever I felt before in my life ..."

*Opening address of **President Joseph Smith**, General Conference of the Church, April, 1844. Chapter XII, page 288 of History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Period I. History of Joseph Smith, the Prophet, by himself. Volume VI. Published by the Church, 1912*

We announce the martyrdom of Joseph Smith the Prophet, and Hyrum Smith the Patriarch. They were shot in Carthage jail, on the 27th of June, 1844, about five o'clock p.m., by an armed mob – painted black – of from 150 to 200 persons.

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 135

Joseph Smith knew what was coming upon the nation of the United States, and said, "If they will let me, I will save the nation." They would not let him, but treated him as a traitor. They arrested him in Missouri for treason, when he had not said a word with regard to political affairs, but preached the Gospel to his brethren. They put him in Carthage Jail in Illinois, under the same false allegation, and slew him without a trial before his peers.

*Apostleship of Joseph Smith – Destruction Awaiting the Nations. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

... and the reader in every nation will be reminded that the Book of Mormon, and this book of Doctrine and Covenants of the church, cost the best blood of the nineteenth century to bring them forth for the salvation of a ruined world ...

Doctrine and Covenants, 1921 Edition, Section 135

A question was asked Joseph Smith if all would be damned, except the Latter-day Saints. He answered “yes and most of the Latter-day Saints, unless they repent and do better than they have done.”

*The Kingdom of God. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1862. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

... no man or woman in this dispensation will ever enter into the celestial kingdom of God without the consent of Joseph Smith.

*Intelligence, etc. Remarks by **President Brigham Young**, 1859. In: Journal of Discourses delivered by President Brigham Young, his two counsellors, the twelve apostles, and others. Volume IX. 1862*

One day, while at Peter Harris’ house, I told him [Martin] he had better leave the company of the Smiths, as their religion was false; to which he replied, if you would let me alone, I could make money by it.

*Testimony of **Lucy Harris**, Palmyra NY, 1833. In: E. D. Howe, Mormonism Unveiled, 1834. Chapter XVII*

I conscientiously believe from the facts I have detailed, and from many other circumstances, which I do not deem it necessary to relate, that the whole “Book of Mormon” (so called) is a silly fabrication of falsehood and wickedness, got up for speculation, and with a design to dupe the credulous and unwary – and in order that its fabricators may live upon the spoils of those who swallow its deception.

Testimony of Isaac Hale, Harmony PA, 1834. In: E. D. Howe, Mormonism Unveiled, 1834. Chapter XVII

Mr. [Levi] Lewis says that he “knows Smith to be a liar; that he saw him (Smith) intoxicated at three different times while he was composing the Book of Mormon.”

E. D. Howe, Mormonism Unveiled, 1834. Chapter XVII

... behold the following revelation came through the stone: “Some revelations are of God; some revelations are of man; and some revelations are of the devil.”

David Whitmer, An Address to All Believers in Christ by A Witness to the Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon, Chapter IV, 1887

By your own experience you know that
“Mormonism,” if not true, is worse than
nothing.

*Instructions to Missionaries. Delivered by **President Brigham Young**, 1860. Journal of Discourses, Volume VIII.*