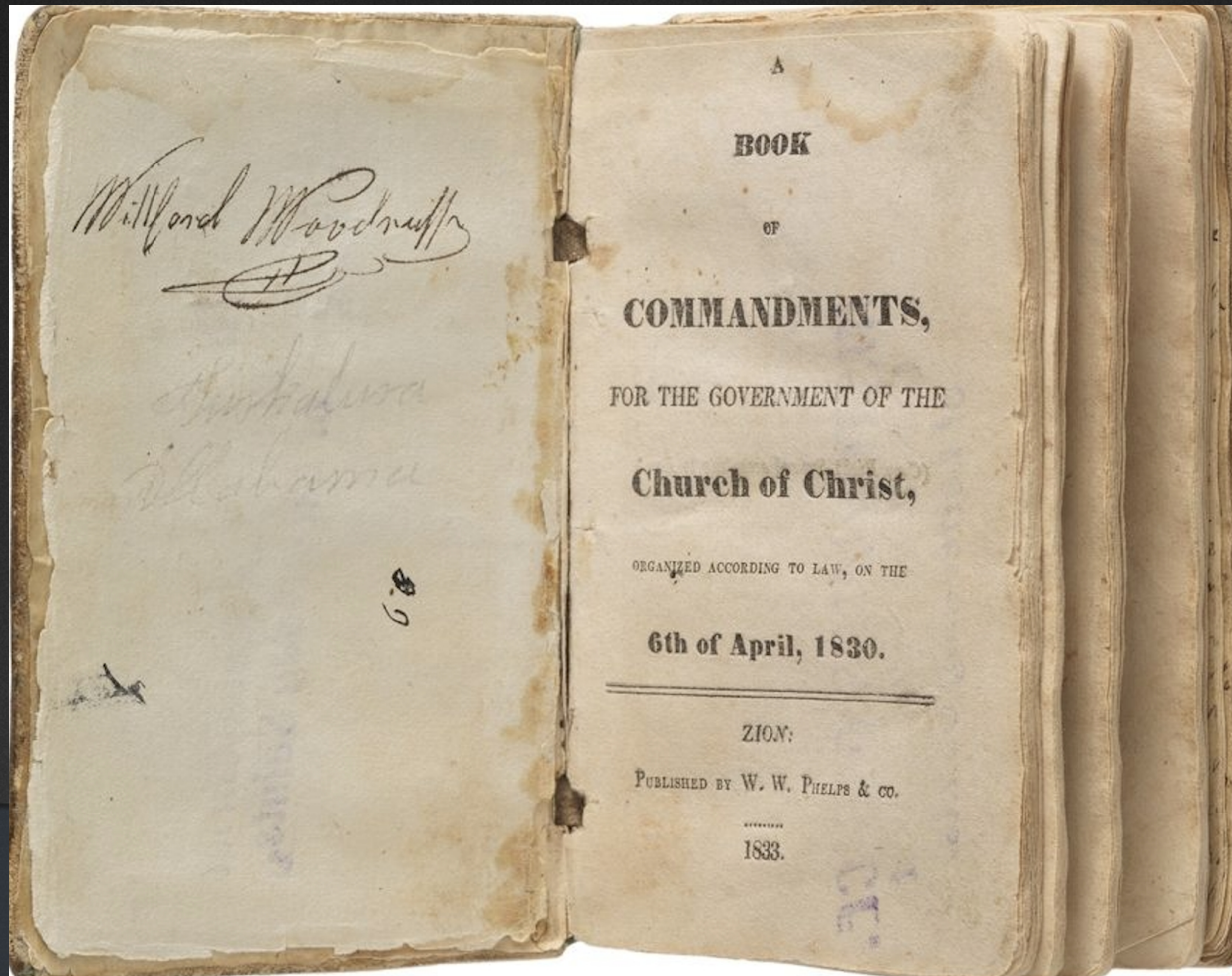


June 23–29
Doctrine and Covenants 67–70
“Worth... the Riches of the Whole Earth”



Historical Background

Joseph Smith

"My time was occupied closely in reviewing the commandments and sitting in conference, for nearly two weeks; for from the first to the twelfth of November we held four special conferences.... In consequence of the book of revelations, now to be printed, being the foundation of the Church in these last days, and a benefit to the world, showing that the keys of the mysteries of the kingdom of our Savior are again entrusted to man." (History of the Church 1:235)

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D&C 67:5-8

What challenge did the Lord give to those who thought they could express themselves beyond the language of the revelations?

What can we learn from this account about following our leaders regardless of their imperfections?

Joseph Smith

“After the foregoing was received, William E. McLellin... endeavored to write a commandment like unto one of the least of the Lord's, but failed; it was an awful responsibility to write in the name of the Lord. The Elders and all present that witnessed this vain attempt of a man to imitate the language of Jesus Christ, renewed their faith in the truth of the commandments and revelations which the Lord had given to the Church through my instrumentality; and the Elders signified a willingness to bear testimony of their truth to all the world.” (HC, 1:226)

Lorenzo Snow

"I can fellowship the President of the Church if he does not know everything I know... I saw the... imperfections in [Joseph Smith].... I thanked God that He would put upon a man who had those imperfections the power and authority He placed upon him... for I knew that I myself had weakness, and I thought there was a chance for me... I thanked God that I saw these imperfections" (As cited by Neal A. Maxwell, CR, Oct. 1984)

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D&C 67:3-4,9

What do we learn about gaining testimonies from the experience of these Elders?

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D&C 67:10-14

While we are in this life, is it possible for veil to be rent and to see the face of the Lord?

How must we live in order to receive this great blessing?

Bruce R. McConkie

“We have the power—and it is our privilege—so to live, that becoming pure in heart, we shall see the face of God while we yet dwell as mortals in a world of sin and sorrow.

“This is the crowning blessing of mortality. It is offered by that God who is no respecter of persons to all the faithful in his kingdom.” (CR, Oct. 1977)

Joseph Smith

"After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, and is baptized for the remission of his sins and receives the Holy Ghost, (by the laying on of hands), which is the first Comforter, then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and living by every word of God, and the Lord will soon say unto him, Son, thou shalt be exalted.

"When the Lord has thoroughly proved him, and finds that the man is determined to serve Him at all hazards, then the man will find his calling and his election made sure, then it will be his privilege to receive the other Comforter... the Lord Jesus Christ Himself." (Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith, pg. 150-51)

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

“Without patience, we cannot please God; we cannot become perfect. Indeed, patience is a purifying process that refines understanding, deepens happiness, focuses action, and offers hope for peace....

“Patience is a godly attribute that can heal souls, unlock treasures of knowledge and understanding, and transform ordinary men and women into saints and angels. Patience is truly a fruit of the Spirit.” (CR, April 2010)

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D&C 68:2-4

How can we know if General Authorities are “moved upon by the Holy Ghost,” and what they are teaching is scripture?

J. Reuben Clark

“The question is, how shall we know when the things they have spoken were said as they were ‘moved upon by the Holy Ghost’? I have given some thought to this question, and the answer thereto, so far as I can determine, is: We can tell when the speakers are ‘moved upon by the Holy Ghost’ only when we, ourselves, are ‘moved upon by the Holy Ghost.’ In a way, this completely shifts the responsibility from them to us to determine when they so speak.” (Church News, July 31, 1954)

Marion G. Romney

“Those... who will through mighty prayer and earnest study inform themselves as to what these living prophets say, and act upon it, will be visited by the spirit of the Lord and know by the spirit of revelation that they speak the mind and will of the Father.” (CR, April 1945)

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D&C 68:25-28

What responsibilities do parents have to their children when it comes to the gospel?

What guarantee do righteous parent's have that their children will stay on the right path as their influence over their children diminishes?

Spencer W. Kimball

“Home life, proper teaching in the home, parental guidance and leadership—these are the panacea for the ailments of the world and its children. They are the cure for spiritual and emotional diseases and the remedy for its problems. Parents should not leave the training of children to others.

“There seems to be a growing tendency to shift this responsibility from the home to outside influences such as the school and the church, and of greater concern, to various child-care agencies and institutions. Important as these outward influences may be, they never can adequately take the place of the influence of the mother and the father. Constant training, constant vigilance, companionship, and being watchmen of our own children are necessary in order to keep our homes intact and to bless our children in the Lord’s own way.” (CR, April 1979)

Brigham Young

“I will here say to parents, that kind words and loving actions towards children, will subdue their uneducated natures a great deal better than the rod, or, in other words, than physical punishment.... Children who have lived in the sunbeams of parental kindness and affection, when made aware of a parent's displeasure, and receive a kind reproof from parental lips, are more thoroughly chastened, than by any physical punishment that could be applied to their persons.” (JD, 10:360)

Spencer W. Kimball

"I have sometimes seen children of good families rebel, resist, stray, sin, and even actually fight God. In this they bring sorrow to their parents, who have done their best... to teach and live as examples.....

"There is no guarantee, of course, that righteous parents will succeed always in holding their children.... The children have their free agency....

"What we do know is that righteous parents who strive to develop wholesome influences for their children will be held blameless at the last day, and that they will succeed in saving most of their children, if not all." (CR, Oct. 1974)

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D&C 68:29-32

What are some of the reasons given by the Lord that the Saints must “labor in all faithfulness”?

Spencer W. Kimball

“Work brings happiness, self-esteem, and prosperity. It is the means of all accomplishment; it is the opposite of idleness. We are commanded to work. Attempts to obtain our temporal, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being by means of a dole violate the divine mandate that we should work for what we receive. Work should be the ruling principle in the lives of our Church membership.” (CR, Oct. 1977)

L. Tom Perry

“I have a special concern about the Lord’s reference to our children. We see evidence of many parents who overindulge their children without adding sufficient training about the value of work.

In any community of Saints, we all work to serve each other in the best way we know how. Our work has a higher purpose because it is work to bless others and to build the kingdom of God.” (CR, April 2001)

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D&C 70:3-5,12

What do you think the Lord means when he calls these men to be “stewards over the revelations and commandments”?

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D&C 70:7-9

Next Week:

June 30–July 6

Doctrine and Covenants 71–75

“No Weapon That Is Formed against You
Shall Prosper”

