

September 1–7

Doctrine and Covenants 94–97

“For the Salvation of Zion”



Temples

D&C 95:1

How do you think that receiving spiritual chastisement can be a blessing in your life?

Taniela B. Wakolo

“Sometimes God manifests His love by chastening us. It is a way of reminding us that He loves us and that He knows who we are.... When we recognize the chastening and are willing recipients, it becomes a spiritual surgery.... That chastening, or spiritual surgery, will bring about needed change in our lives. We will realize, brothers and sisters, that it refines and purifies our inner vessels.” (CR, April 2021)

Temples

D&C 95:2-4

What had the members failed to do that brought about this chastisement from the Lord?

In what ways do you think that temples are designed “to prepare mine apostles to prune my vineyard”?

Temples

D&C 95:5-8,12

How do you think that temples resolve that fact that many who have “been ordained” are “walking in darkness at noon-day?”

Joseph B. Wirthlin

“When President Gordon B. Hinckley announced an unprecedented number of new temples last April, he declared that ‘temple ordinances become the crowning blessings the Church has to offer’ (CR, April 1998). He is extending these crowning blessings to more Latter-day Saints than ever before. In the house of the Lord, faithful Church members can be endowed ‘with power from on high,’ power that will enable us to resist temptation, honor covenants, obey the Lord’s commandments, and bear fervent, fearless testimony of the gospel to family, friends, and neighbors.” (CR, Oct. 1998)

Temples

D&C 95:13-17

In what ways do you think the Kirtland Temple was built specifically to meet the needs of the Church at that time?

ElRay L. Christiansen

“Evidently the Kirtland Temple was not designed structurally for such ordinances as baptisms or endowments for the dead, but rather as an appropriate place in which certain of those chosen for the work in the ministry were endowed with essential blessings, keys, and power from on high.

“In it the Savior appeared in person to the Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery, and he accepted it as his house. This glorious vision was followed by personal visitations of Moses, Elias, and Elijah, who appeared in succession, and each one of them committed the keys of this dispensation.” (CR, April 1968)

Temples

D&C 97:1-2,7

Temples

D&C 97:8

What does the Lord outline in this verse that we should do in order to be “accepted” by Him?

Erich W. Kopischke

“I will share a simple pattern which, if applied, can help every one of us find ultimate acceptance.... This pattern consists of three simple steps:

- Know that our hearts are honest and broken,
- Know that our spirits are contrite, and
- Be willing to observe our covenants by sacrifice, as commanded by the Lord....

“The third step to being accepted by the Lord is a conscious decision to observe our covenants through sacrifice, ‘yea, every sacrifice which I, the Lord, shall command.’” (CR, April 2013)

Jeffrey R. Holland

“From Adam to the present hour, true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ has always been linked to the offering of sacrifice, our small gift to be a symbolic echo of His majestic offering. With his eye firmly on the Atonement of Jesus Christ, the Prophet Joseph Smith taught that a religion that does not include covenants of sacrifice cannot have the power to bring the promise of eternal life.” (CR, Oct. 2002)

Temples

D&C 97:9-12

What does the Lord promise to those who sacrifice to help build the temple?

Erich W. Kopischke

“The Lord uses a wonderful illustration to show how we profit as individuals and families as we seek His acceptance. He said, ‘For I, the Lord, will cause them to bring forth as a very fruitful tree which is planted in a goodly land, by a pure stream, that yieldeth much precious fruit’ (D&C 97:9)....

“We will be among those to whom He has said, ‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord (Matt 25:21).’” (CR, April 2013)

Temples

D&C 97:13-16

What are some of the blessing we are promised when we build temples “in the name of the Lord”?

Orson Pratt

“He has said that his people are always to build unto his name a house. What for? That his name might be there; that his angels might be there; that his presence might be there; and that there the fullness of the holy Priesthood might be more fully revealed, and that there all the ordinances might be performed, that were ordained from before the foundation of the world.” (JD, 19:8)

Joseph B. Wirthlin

“The House of the Lord is a place where we can escape from the mundane and see our lives in an eternal perspective. We can ponder instructions and covenants that help us understand more clearly the plan of salvation and the infinite love of our Heavenly Father for his children. We can ponder our relationship to God, the Eternal Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ....

“Regular temple work can provide spiritual strength. It can be an anchor in daily life, a source of guidance, protection, security, peace, and revelation.” (CR, April 1992)

David B. Haight

“It is true that some have actually seen the Savior, but when one consults the dictionary, he learns that there are many other meanings of the word see, such as coming to know Him, discerning Him, recognizing Him and His work, perceiving His importance, or coming to understand Him.

“Such heavenly enlightenment and blessings are available to each of us.” (CR, Oct. 1990)

Next Week:

September 8–14:

Doctrine and Covenants 98–101

“Be Still and Know That I Am God”

