

September 8–14
Doctrine and Covenants 98–101
“Be Still and Know That I Am God”



Obedience

D&C 101:1-5, 41-42

Why did the Saints need to “be chastened and tried”?

Brigham Young

“Some may ask why we did not tarry at the Center Stake of Zion when the Lord planted our feet there.... We could not abide what the Lord revealed to us. We had to go from there to gain an experience.... If we could have received the words of life and lived according to them, when we first gathered to the Center Stake of Zion we never would have been removed from that place.” (JD, 11:102)

Obedience

D&C 101:6-8

Why, during this trying time, was the Lord “slow to hearken unto their prayers”?

Joseph F. Smith

"The only real danger that I foresee in the path of the Latter-day Saints is in the results which naturally follow the possession of wealth—pride and vanity, self-indulgence and forgetfulness of God, and a disregard of the sacred obligations and duties that we owe to Him and to one another; and this because of the abundance of earthly blessings which He in His goodness has bestowed upon us. It is said that in adversity we are inclined to feel after the Lord, but that in prosperity we remember Him not." (JD, 24:173)

Parable of the Redemption of Zion

D&C 101:43-46

- The 'nobleman' represents the Lord
- The 'servants' represent the Saints in Jackson Co.
- The 'very choice land' represents Jackson Co.
- The '12 olive trees' represent the settlements for the gathering
- The 'watchmen round about them' represents the Church leaders
- The 'tower' represents the temple
- The 'watchman upon the tower' represents the Prophet

Parable of the Redemption of Zion

D&C 101:47-50

How did the servants rationalize away “the commandments of their lord”?

What evidence is given that the servants had their hearts more on temporal things than on spiritual things?

Mark E. Petersen

"When we regard our work in the Church, let us remember that we are working in the vineyard of the Lord, and that we are his servants, just as the servants who worked in the planting of those olive-trees. And remember, too, that if we esteem lightly the word of the Lord in the day of our prosperity, in the day of our trouble he may be slow to hearken unto our prayers, to answer us and provide for our needs." (CR, Oct. 1944)

Joseph Smith

“We send by this mail, a draft of the city of Zion, with explanations, and a draft of *the house to be built immediately*, in Zion, for the Presidency, as well as all purposes of religion and instruction.” (HC 1:363, June 25, 1833)

Parable of the Redemption of Zion

D&C 101:51-54

What would they have been able to do if they had build the tower as commanded?

Mark E. Petersen

“You look into the failure of any person to live the commandments of God, or you look into the failure of any organization to follow the outlined program of the Church, and you will find the person, or the organization, which does not regard the program of the Church or the commandments of the Lord as particularly important ‘What need hath my Lord of these things?’” (CR, Oct. 1944)

Parable of the Redemption of Zion

D&C 101:55-58

Who is being ask by the lord of the vineyard to “go ye straightway... and redeem my vineyard”?

What timeframe does the Lord give when “the residue of mine house [may come] and possess the land”?

Joseph Fielding Smith

"In this instruction the Lord gave them the opportunity to obtain the redemption of Zion and for the exiles to be reinstated in their possessions. Had they remained faithful he would have fulfilled his promise to them. They understood the warnings and that through their continued unfaithfulness the redemption would have to be postponed." (Church History and Modern Revelation, 3:19)

Parable of the Redemption of Zion

D&C 101:59-62

When does the nobleman say that he will again take possession of his vineyard?

What is the Lord's commandment to his servants?

Mark E. Petersen

"May we have the wisdom, to accept the Lord's program as it is given to us. May we be willing to undertake this work of prevention in saving [souls] from the onslaught of the destroyer. May we be willing to be awake to our responsibilities. May we be willing to follow the leadership of the great nobleman who stands at the head of the vineyard." (CR, Oct. 1953)

Establishing Zion

D&C 101:16-20

What kind of people will the Lord call on to redeem Zion?

Establishing Zion

D&C 100:13,15-17

What will the Lord do to prepare His Saints to redeem Zion?

Spencer W. Kimball

"May I suggest three fundamental things... for which we who labor for Zion must commit ourselves.

"First, we must eliminate the individual tendency to selfishness that snares the soul, shrinks the heart and darkens the mind...

"Second, we must cooperate completely and work in harmony one with the other. There must be unanimity in our decisions and unity in our action....

"Third, we must lay on the altar and sacrifice whatever is required by the Lord. We begin by offering a 'broken heart and a contrite spirit.' We follow this by giving our best effort in our assigned fields of labor and callings. We learn our duty and execute it fully. Finally, we consecrate our time, talents, and means as called upon by our leaders and as prompted by the whisperings of the spirit". (CR, April 1978)

Gathering of Israel

D&C 101:21-22

What do we learn from this passage about where the gathering can and will take place?

Dallin H. Oaks

"With the creation of stakes and the construction of temples in most nations with sizeable populations of the faithful, the current commandment is not to gather to one place but to gather in stakes in our own homelands. There the faithful can enjoy the full blessings of eternity in a house of the Lord. There, in their own homelands, they can obey the Lord's command to enlarge the borders of His people and strengthen her stakes. In this way, the stakes of Zion are 'for a defense, and for a refuge from the storm, and from wrath when it shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth' (D&C 115:6)." (CR, April 2004)

Gathering of Israel

D&C 101:63-68

Why is it essential “that the work of the gathering together of my saints... continue”?

Next Week

September 15–21

Doctrine and Covenants 102–105

“After Much Tribulation ... Cometh the
Blessing”

