

Moroni's visits to 17 year old Joseph Smith – 21 & 22 September 1823

VISIT #1 – (Joseph Smith – History 1:30-43)

- Moroni introduces himself as “a messenger sent from the presence of God”.
- Moroni tells Joseph that “there was a book is deposited, written upon gold plates...”, “fullness of the everlasting gospel was contained in it” and the Urim and Thummim with them.
- Moroni quotes prophecies from the Old Testament:
 - “part of the third chapter of Malachi”
 - 16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often to one another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a **book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.
 - 17 And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.
 - 18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and them that serveth him not.
 - “fourth or last chapter of the same prophecy, though with a little variation from the way it reads in our Bibles.”

King James Version

1 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.

4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Isreal, with the statues and judgments.

King James Version

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Moroni – “sent from God”

1 For behold the day cometh that shall burn as an oven, and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly shall burn as stubble; for they that come shall burn them, saith the Lord of Hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

Moroni – “sent from God”

5 Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

6 And he shall plant in the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers. If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming.

- “he quoted the eleventh chapter of Isaiah, saying that it was about to be fulfilled”.
- “he quoted also the third chapter of Acts, twenty-second and twenty-third verses...he said that that prophet was Christ; but the day had not yet come...but soon would come.”
- “He also quoted the second chapter of Joel, from the twenty-eight verse to the last. He also said that this was not yet fulfilled, but was soon to be.
- “he further stated that the fullness of the Gentiles was soon to come in.”
- “He quoted many other scriptures, and offered many explanations which cannot be mentioned here.”

VISIT #2 – (Joseph Smith – History 1:44-45)

- “Again related the very *same things which he had done at his first visit*, without the least variation”
- “He informed me of great judgments which were coming upon the earth”

VISIT #3 – (Joseph Smith – History 1:46-47)

- I “heard him *rehearse or repeat over again to me the same things as before*”
- “and added a caution to me, telling me that Satan would try to tempt me..”

...the cock crowed, and I found that day was approaching, so that our interviews must have occupied the whole of that night.

...My father, who was laboring along with me, discovered something to be wrong with me, and told me to go home. I started with the intention of going to the house; but, in attempting to cross the fence out of the field where we were, my strength entirely failed me, and I ^b[fell](#) helpless on the ground, and for a time was quite unconscious of anything.

VISIT #4 – (Joseph Smith – History 1:49)

- ...same messenger standing over my head, surrounded by light as before. He then *again related unto me all that he had related to me the previous night*, and commanded me to go to my ^a[father](#) and tell him of the vision and commandments which I had received.

Doctrine and Covenants 128: 24

Behold, the great day of the Lord is at hand; and who can abide the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap; and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. **Let us, therefore, as a church and a people, and as Latter-day Saints, offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness; and let us present in his holy temple, when it is finished, a book containing the records of our dead, which shall be worthy of all acceptation.**

Malachi 4:5-6

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

And he shall turn the hear of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

3 Nephi 25:5-6

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord;

And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Doctrine and Covenants 2:1-3

Behold, I will reveal unto you the Priesthood, by the hand of Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

And he shall plant the hearts of the children the promises made to the fathers, and the hearts of the children shall turn to the fathers.

If it were not so, the whole earth would be utterly wasted at his coming.

BD Elijah

His recorded words are few but forceful, and his deeds are explicit evidences of his strength of will, force of character, and personal courage. He was an example of solid faith in the Lord. With his ministry are associated such colorful events as his pronouncements upon the life and death of Ahab and Jezebel (and their subsequent fulfillment); calling down fire from heaven; *sealing* the heavens with no rain for three and one-half years; blessing the widow's meal and oil; and raising a boy from the dead. His life closed dramatically; "there appeared a chariot of fire, . . . and **Elijah** went up by a whirlwind into heaven," (2 Kgs. 2: 11-12) and thus was he translated. As a result of **Elijah's** ministry, Baal worship was greatly reduced as a threat to Israel. At his translation **Elijah's** mantle (shawl) fell on Elisha, his successor; the term "mantle of the prophet" has become a phrase indicative of prophetic succession.

BD Elijah

We learn from latter-day revelation that **Elijah** held the *sealing power* of the Melchizedek Priesthood and was the last prophet to do so before the time of Jesus Christ. He appeared on the Mount in company with Moses (also translated) and conferred the keys of the priesthood on Peter, James, and John (Matt. 17: 3). He appeared again, in company with Moses and others, on April 3, 1836, in the Kirtland (Ohio) Temple [day of Passover in 1836] and conferred the same keys upon Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery. All of this was in preparation for the coming of the Lord, as spoken of in Mal. 4: 5-6 (D&C 110: 13-16). As demonstrated by his miraculous deeds, the power of **Elijah** is the *sealing power* of the priesthood by which *things bound or loosed on earth are bound or loosed in heaven*. Thus the keys of this power are once again operative on the earth and are used in performing all the ordinances of the gospel for the living and the dead.