



# Jesus Will Set Up His Kingdom

By Christine Salyards

The angel who came to Mary told her that the son which she would bring forth would set up a kingdom. This statement still applies today. Jesus who was born so long ago will yet return and set up His Kingdom on the earth. When the angel, Gabriel, announced to Mary the birth of a son he said: *The Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David, and he shall reign over the houses of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end (Luke 1:32-33)*. It linked the son of Mary with the Old Testament prophecies.

The kingdom Jesus came to establish was not such a one as the Jews expected their Messiah to usher in. As he was about to take his departure into heaven, the disciples asked him, “Lord wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom unto Israel?” He answered that it was not for them to know the times and seasons. He spoke to them again of the responsibilities he had left upon them and then ascended into the clouds of heaven. But though Jesus did not name the specific time of his return to earth, he has left some general information concerning it. He told Enoch it should be in the last days, in the days of wickedness and vengeance (Genesis 7:67). In answer to the question of his disciples, “What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” Jesus said it would be in a time of great iniquity and the world would be taken unawares, as it had in the days of Noah, when the flood came and carried them all away. He said there would be wars, earthquakes, famines, and perplexities, and men’s hearts would fail with fear. (Luke 21:25-27; Matthew 24:37)

He stated that, as one of the signs of his coming, the gospel should be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations. Matthew 24:32 says that a remnant of Israel should be gathered back to Jerusalem, and that the Saints of the latter days should be gathered to a place of safety appointed for them, a city of refuge (DC 45:2). As we celebrate Christmas let us remember what the angel said to Mary and not only rejoice in Christ’s birth but prepare ourselves for His Kingdom.

## The Enduring Word: A City to be Built – Part 2

Laying the foundation  
Brick upon Brick

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When it was revealed to Enoch that the Lord will come to earth again in the last days he was told: *And the day shall come that the earth shall rest...And great tribulations shall be among the children of men, but my people will I preserve (Genesis 7:28-71).* **The Lord said his people should be gathered to a place he would prepare and would build up a holy city.**

This city of the latter days is to be built up by those who receive the gospel, restored for the last time. It must be built on the same principles of righteousness by which the people of Enoch's Zion were developed spiritually, until they were ready for translation to heaven. **At the coming of Christ there will be gathered in one of all who, in past times have built upon that foundation of truth.**

Doctrine and Covenants 65:1e refers to this union as a meeting that will occur when *“the Son of man shall come down in heaven, clothed in the brightness of his glory, to meet the Kingdom of God which is set up on the earth.”* It says, *Wherefore, may the Kingdom of God go forth, that the Kingdom of heaven may come (DC 65:1e).* **To the church...is committed the responsibility of making known his wonderful works among the people that they may be prepared for the great day that is approaching.**

Christine admonished = **Give Heed With Your Might!**”

*Keep my commandments, and seek to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion...and no one can assist in this work, except he shall be humble and full of love having faith, hope, and charity, being temperate in all things whatsoever shall be entrusted to his care. I am the light and the life of the world, that speak these words; therefore, give heed with your might (DC 11:3b, 4b, 5a-b).*



## The Enduring Word – Part 3

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The angel Moroni, sent to introduce the latter day works of restoration to Joseph Smith, quoted the prophecy of Malachi among those to be fulfilled. (History of the Church Vol 1, p. 13) This visit may be regarded as the commencement of a work in this closing stormy period of world history. It includes the presentation of the gospel in its original purity and the gathering of a people who receive it to a place where they may be safe in the time of stress soon to break upon the whole world, already at the door.

The prevalence of the unrest coming on the world is indicated in the prediction that the people gathered in their place of refuge will be the “only people not at war one with another”. (DC 45:12-13) **It is required that those who gather to the place of safety shall be upright and faithful. The church is warned that in the time of the end, the parable of the ten virgins will be fulfilled. This indicates that its people must be true followers of Christ. It suggests the danger that those, once enlightened by the Spirit, may fall away through failure to keep the commandments of the law of Christ.**

The church is a colony of heaven, where our spirits were in the beginning with God. We profess allegiance to Christ and avow our willingness to keep his commandments. Upon condition of our loyalty to the law of the Kingdom, we shall finally have fellowship with the general assembly of the church that shall inherit the earth. With Jesus in the Kingdom, DC 26:2-3 mentions representative men of different periods of time, who will be in the Kingdom on earth when Jesus comes again: Adam, the father of all, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Elijah, Elias (Gabriel) who appeared to Zacharias, John the Baptist, Peter, James, John and Moroni. **With these, to whom special work was assigned, will be the multitudes of the meek, the pure in heart, who have loved truth and have been loyal to it in their lives. The magnitude of the responsibility borne is not the most important consideration, but the faithfulness with which it is discharged. Much is said of the necessity of preparing ourselves to be worthy of life on this higher plane. This work of personal preparation is our responsibility. To prepare the place for us is the work of Christ, and he will do his part!**