

Learning About Revelation
(Priest Lesson May 2015 – Roald Peterson)

Introduction

Discusses importance of revelation from God, its purposes, and ways revelation is given to man.

Revelation at Core of Gospel

? How is revelation from God at the core of the gospel?

- Gospel restored through Revelation (1st vision et al).
- Conversion to gospel is through Revelation.
- Members receive gift of Holy Ghost for revelation.
- Church and kingdom led by revelation.
- We only progress spiritually through Revelation.
- Purpose of gospel is to prepare people to have Christ in God revealed unto them.

Why We Need Revelation

- Parable of the 10 Virgins.
(DC 45:56-57... For they that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have not been deceived—verily I say unto you, they shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day.
- ? Our purpose is to become like God. How do you learn about God without revelation?
- ? Can you fulfill your life's missions successfully without knowing what they are or how to accomplish them?
- ? When you marry, you will be choosing a partner for eternity and someone to help you fulfill life's mission. After choosing how you will use the Atonement of Christ, it's probably the most important decision you'll make in this life. Do you want to make it alone?

Sources of Revelation

- We have three primary sources of revelation available to us:
 - Scriptures (more than just standard works.)
 - Words of living apostles and prophets.
 - Personal revelation.
- ? Which of these is the most important?

How We Receive Revelation

Revelation comes in many ways.

- **A still small voice**
(1 Kings 19:11-13) 11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake:
12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.
13 And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the

entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

(Helaman 5:30) - And it came to pass when they heard this voice, and beheld that it was not a voice of thunder, neither was it a voice of a great tumultuous noise, but behold, it was a still voice of perfect mildness, as if it had been a whisper, and it did pierce even to the very soul—

• **In your mind and heart**

(DC 8:2-3) 2 Yea, behold, I will tell you in your mind and in your heart, by the Holy Ghost, which shall come upon you and which shall dwell in your heart.

3 Now, behold, this is the spirit of revelation; behold, this is the spirit by which Moses brought the children of Israel through the Red Sea on dry ground.

• **Enlighten mind and fill soul with joy**

(DC 11:12-14) 12 And now, verily, verily, I say unto thee, put your trust in that Spirit which leadeth to do good—yea, to do justly, to walk humbly, to judge righteously; and this is my Spirit.

13 Verily, verily, I say unto you, I will impart unto you of my Spirit, which shall enlighten your mind, which shall fill your soul with joy;

14 And then shall ye know, or by this shall you know, all things whatsoever you desire of me, which are pertaining unto things of righteousness, in faith believing in me that you shall receive.

• **Bring things to remembrance**

(John 14:26) But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

• **Burning in bosom, feeling of right, forget thing that is wrong**

(DC 9:7-9) 7 Behold, you have not understood; you have supposed that I would give it unto you, when you took no thought save it was to ask me.

8 But, behold, I say unto you, that you must study it out in your mind; then you must ask me if it be right, and if it is right I will cause that your bosom shall burn within you; therefore, you shall feel that it is right.

9 But if it be not right you shall have no such feelings, but you shall have a stupor of thought that shall cause you to forget the thing which is wrong; therefore, you cannot write that which is sacred save it be given you from me.

• **Dreams & Visions**

(1 Nephi 8:2) 2 And it came to pass that while my father tarried in the wilderness he spake unto us, saying: Behold, I have dreamed a dream; or, in other words, I have seen a vision.

- Joseph Smith's first vision (JS History 14-19)
- Nephi describes one of his visions over several chapters (1 Nephi 11-14)

• **Words and thoughts as you teach others**

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(**Luke 12:11–12**) 11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

- **Using Urim and Thummim**
 - Abraham 3:1-4
- **Angelic visitations**
 - Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1–9)
 - John Baptist restores Aaronic Priesthood (DC 13)
 - Several angels come to Kirtland temple (DC 110)
- **Appearances of Deity**
 - Brother of Jared receives Second Comforter (Ether 3)
- **My 2 hour teaching experience with HG.**
 - I had to be able to ask the question.
 - Answer was always a scripture.

Revelation Needed to Perceive Revelation

- Oliver Cowdery receives a revelation telling him that he has received revelation.

(**DC 6:14-16**) 14 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, blessed art thou for what thou hast done; for thou hast inquired of me, and behold, as often as thou hast inquired thou hast received instruction of my Spirit. If it had not been so, thou wouldst not have come to the place where thou art at this time.

15 Behold, thou knowest that thou hast inquired of me and I did enlighten thy mind; and now I tell thee these things that thou mayest know that thou hast been enlightened by the Spirit of truth;

16 Yea, I tell thee, that thou mayest know that there is none else save God that knowest thy thoughts and the intents of thy heart.

Revelation Needed to Understand Revelation

- Daniel receives a revelation to interpret King Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Daniel 2).
- Nephi asks to see and understand his father's vision or dream (1 Ne 11-14).