

Chapter 41

What is the Real Message of the Temple Ancient and Modern?

A little history to ponder, why did ancient Israel lose its temples? Why did the Lord reject the LDS Nauvoo temple in 1841? Same answer for both questions. Idolatry. My thoughts, the Salt Lake City Temple and every temple built after the Kirkland Temple, were rejected by the Lord and so were its baptisms for the dead. Why? Was it because the Nauvoo Temple was not completed at the Lord's appointed time? Perhaps the meaning goes deeper than brick and mortar.

"But behold, at the end of this appointment your baptisms for your dead shall not be acceptable unto me; and if you do not these things at the end of the appointment ye shall be rejected as a church, with your dead, saith the Lord your God. (Doctrine and Covenants | Section 124:32 given January 19,1841). [Brackets and text highlight color added for clarity]

"For instead of blessings, ye, by your own works, [polygamy/adultery] bring cursings, wrath, indignation, and judgments upon your own heads, by your follies, and by all your *abominations*, [polygamy/adultery] which you practice before me, saith the Lord. (Doctrine and Covenants 124:48)

After Joseph and Hyrum Smith were killed, Brigham Young took over. He wasn't called by the Lord to be a "prophet;" he just took over deceitfully, breaking several commandments of God [lying, committing adultery, secretly and then openly practicing polygamy]. On February 9, 1831, the Lord declared his "law" to the Church, and Brigham Young knew this law but disobeyed, he also disobeyed D&C 101 on "Marriage" in our 1835 edition of Doctrine & Covenants, which was canonized scripture. D&C Section 42:18-45 is called: "**Embracing the law of the Church.**" The Lord rejected the church as stated in D&C 124 and its baptisms for the dead, because the Nauvoo temple was never completed at the "appointed time," so we are told by historians, but was that the real reason? To this day, the LDS Church still remains "under condemnation," because several in the Church had broken many of the commandments listed in [D&C 42, and D&C 101 of 1835 on

Marriage]. We must ask, “What is the real message of Temples? What is the Lord trying to teach us about true temple worship?”

"And your minds in times past have been darkened because of unbelief, and because you have treated lightly the things you have received— [D&C 42:18-45]. Which vanity and unbelief have brought the whole church under condemnation. And this condemnation resteth upon the children of Zion, even all. And they shall remain under this condemnation until they repent [of false beliefs, lies, including the polygamy doctrine D&C 132 and remove it from the scriptures] and remember the new covenant, even the Book of Mormon [Jacob 2: 22-29] and the former commandments which I have given them, [D&C 42:18-45; D&C 49:15-17; Ether 10:5] not only to say, but to do according to that which I have written— ***That they may bring forth fruit meet for their Father's kingdom***; otherwise there remaineth a scourge and judgment to be poured out upon the children of Zion. For shall the children of the kingdom pollute my holy land? Verily, I say unto you, Nay.” [D&C 84:54 - 59 given 9/22/1832].

The LDS Church still has time to repent and manifest the ***“fruit” for Fathers kingdom*** and restore the D&C back to the 1835, or 1844 edition as it was in the days of the Prophet Joseph Smith. To make this simple, individually we can and should repent of our false beliefs and lies we are told, even if the LDS Church chooses not too ***and embrace the “fruit” of Fathers kingdom!*** Let’s be honest! These 10 laws [commandments] below are called ***“Embracing the law of the Church.”*** These are “common sense” laws and in my opinion, it is common sense to follow the Holy Spirit!

1. “Thou shalt not kill” [D&C 42:18].
2. “Thou shalt not steal” [D&C 42:20].
3. ***“Thou shalt not lie”*** [D&C 42:21].
4. ***“Thou shalt love thy wife with all thy heart, and shalt cleave unto her and none else”*** [D&C 42:22-23]. “And he that looketh upon another woman to lust after her shall deny the faith.” [Brigham Young and all those who got caught up in polygamy looked upon other woman and lusted for them as additional wives].

5. “Thou shalt not commit adultery” [D&C 42:23] [By living in polygamy they were committing adultery].
6. “Thou shalt not speak evil [falsely] of thy neighbor, nor do him harm” [D&C 42:27]. [Brigham Young and others “lied,” stating that the Prophet Joseph Smith taught and lived polygamy secretly, when he did no such thing].
7. “If thou lovest me thou shalt serve me [in obeying these laws] and keep all my commandments [D&C 42:29].
8. “Thou wilt remember the poor...impart your substance unto the poor” [D&C 42:29-31].
9. “Thou shalt not be idle” [D&C 42:42].
10. “Thou shalt live together in love” [D&C 42:45] “Charity, is the pure love of Christ” [Moroni 7:47].

The essence of the gospel of Christ in these verses is “godliness,” or “holiness” of character! We are to choose godliness over any ancient or cultural traditions that teach polygamy, pornography, LGBTQ lifestyles or any of the “lusts of the flesh.” It seems “godliness,” “holiness to the Lord,” and the names of "God" or "Christ" today has just become a "meme" or "cliche" for some people, because if our **"fruits"** and beliefs are not moral or honest, but deceitful and hypocritical, we are not following Christ or God at all. The apostle Paul said we must "put on Christ" [Galatians 3:22-29]. How do we do that? "Lip" service doesn't do it! In fact, “lip service” is a type of idolatry and so is any immoral behavior. And using “Gods” or “Christs” name to persuade others [D&C 132] to believe the practice of polygamy was from God, or any immoral behaviors is the epidemy of sin. The implications are serious and repentance and forgiveness is the gospel’s way out, just Paul said: “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Is he the God of the Jews only? Is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and the uncircumcision through faith [Romans 3:28-30]. And Christ taught all to “be one” with God [John 17] by a godly faith. This requires one to understand what is it that makes God and Christ and us “one?” ***It is His divine attributes, His "divine nature."*** If we were to take just one divine attribute away from God [like love, virtue or honesty], He would cease to be a “godly” person and it is the same for you and me? It’s not about what religion we belong to, its about where our

“heart” is. “God is no respecter of persons,” race or religion, but of a divine and holy character!

How should we truly worship God and Christ? Do we need organized religion to do this? Did God the Father and Christ become “Gods” through organized religion? No, but it may help us to wake up spiritually. Do we need a mosque, synagogue, or an LDS Temple to do this? No, but it may help to wake us up spiritually. True story: the Lord told the Samaritan woman who thought she needed, Jerusalem and the temple to worship and find salvation, a very important lesson about idolatry. The Lord told her, you don’t need the outward religious places or ordinances to worship. He said: “The hour cometh, and now is, when the **true worshippers** shall worship the Father **in spirit** and **in truth**: for the Father seeketh such to worship him” (John 4:23). Idolatry comes into place in our lives when we think someplace or someone with authority to perform outward ordinance is needed to bring us salvation [Hebrews 9,10,11].

So, what type of “worship” [or thinking] separates the "righteous" from Celestial or Terrestrial salvation or “worship?” If we choose some "person," or a “temple” to create a worship place [that is idolatry; Ephesians 5], but if we choose to worship **“in spirit”** and **“in truth”** within our own heart, we are worshiping the correct and honest way, "for the Father seeketh such to worship him" in this manner! This is the ONLY way we can become truly "one" with Him!!! The outward forms and structures of religion cannot do this; they are here for a reason, and that is to wake us up spiritually, because we have drifted so far from the truth that is within. “The kingdom of God is within you,” Luke 17:21 and so is the true temple, “made without hands” Mark 14:58. The journey into real worship is an inward journey anyone can take, whether in or out of organized religion. Because it is a personal choice to choose to actually “be” in the Spirit of love, honesty, and virtue, right now in this moment. This is the only way we can walk back into the presence of the Father if we are like Him and this is how we become "one" with Him and Christ from the inside out, through the "fruit of the Spirit!" [Galatians 5:22-26; Eph. 5:9; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20]. This is how the dead are saved, and the living too; fulfilling the promise of Malachi 4, for only “godliness” will “turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.” We don’t have to go to a temple in Jerusalem, or any other place, or wear a garment, to do this. We are that “holy garment” when we are “partakers of divine nature” [2 Peter

1:2-10]. This is why the Samaritan woman was so excited to learn that salvation in Fathers kingdom is available to all, and she went to tell everyone about it! [John 4].

One of my favorite foundational beliefs is to realize that I am "the [true] temple of the living God" [2 Corinthians 6:16-18] and choose to respect everyone in like manner, in the same way, because they also are a "temple of the living God," whether they perceive it or not. This keeps me grounded and centered in Christ correctly! Or as Paul put it, "Christ in you," is the holy garment [Colossians 1:27-29]. Isaiah said: **"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garment of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness"** [Isaiah 61:10]. "Where [godly] love is," [Proverbs 15:17] there is God also [1 John 4:8, 16-17].

Now for a warning to put this all into perspective: The master teacher, Christ said: **"take heed that no man deceive you"** [Matt 24:4]. Christ knew this would happen in these last days before He comes in glory:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing [their religious garments and authority, teaching you that polygamy was from God, D&C 132, when it never was] but inwardly they are ravening wolves. **Ye shall know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth **not** forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them**." (New Testament | Matthew 7:15 - 20) What fruit is Christ talking about? **The fruit of the Spirit**. [Galatians 5: 22-26]. **"That they may bring forth fruit meet for their Father's kingdom"**; otherwise there remaineth a scourge and judgment to be poured out upon the children of Zion. For shall the children of the kingdom pollute my holy land? Verily, I say unto you, Nay" [D&C 84:54 – 59].

How do we really get to know Christ or Father personally? [Galatians 5:22-26]. Through their fruits! In other words, by becoming like them we get to know them personally and by **being** a manifestation of those fruits moment by moment and striving to live in that moment every moment of the day!

Let's come back to the "Church" and what happened after The Prophet Joseph Smith was killed.

"And also those to whom these commandments **[D&C 42: 18-45]** were given, **might** have power to lay the foundation of this church, and to bring it forth out of obscurity and out of darkness, [look at this church as a spiritual church: 1 Corinthians 12] the only true and living church [**"for ye are the temple of the living God"** 2 Corinthians 6:16-18] upon the face of the whole earth, [if you think this "church" is a literal building of brick and mortar you are thinking like the Samaritan woman *before* the Lord enlightened her with the truth] with which I, the Lord, am well pleased, speaking unto the church collectively and not individually—For I the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance; (D&C 1:30 - 31). [the "church" of brick and mortal literally can't sin; it is the people who sin].

When Brigham Young and others who were like minded took over and brought polygamy [adultery, lies, murder and deceit] into the Church, [D&C 132] the Lord rejected that temporal Church along with its baptisms for the dead [D&C 124]. What remains today if you want to accept it is a "Spiritual Church," called the "church of the Lamb of God" spoken of by [1 Nephi 14:10-13] and this "church" will continue to receive members who are awake spiritually, "born again" [John 3:1-13] having no desire to lie, deceive or "desire to do evil but to do good continually," and they know they are the true temple of the living God "made without hands" [Mark 14:58] which the Lord was referring to when speaking to the Samaritan woman! Are you ready to accept this truth or remain thinking in some form of idolatry? Don't watch this video unless you are ready to leave idolatrous thinking.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RL3Z_R_2DCM&t=4s