

## Chapter 35

### Where is the Only True Church?

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints claims to be the only organization on earth who has true “priesthood authority” to baptize and give the gift of the Holy Ghost, making it the “only true and *living* church” on the earth. What makes a church “true” according to the Lord, isn’t the brick and mortar, it’s the “*living*” [D&C 1: 30\*31] ***people who choose to live in holiness of character!*** In other words, you are the metaphor for the “only true and *living* church,” just as you are the metaphor for the only true and *living* “temple of God,” if you live in holiness of character! ***Hence any person of any race or religion who is living in holiness, is fulfilling the will of the Father.*** If you don’t believe this, you might want to take a closer look at the doctrine and what it really says. I have been a member all my life and it has only been in these last few years that this eternal pattern unfolds more clearly. Why the metaphor, or parable of a “church?” To wake us up in fellowship with the truth! Most people are asleep to the truth that is “in” them innately! Most people don’t believe they are the true “temple of the *living* God” and a “self-existing beings,” co-equal and co-eternal with God, without beginning of days or end of years [King Follet Sermon by ***the Prophet*** Joseph Smith]. The more I ponder scripturally our doctrine, the more I know this truth. That all things outside myself are symbols or metaphors to awaken me spiritually and put me on the inner path of fellowship with the truth that will liberate me from the chains of lies, deceit, and false doctrines! [2 Nephi 28:9-25] A warning to all Church’s today.

There are many paths to salvation. In “my Father’s house are many mansions” [John 14:2]. “Mansions” is a metaphor describing the many paths of brick and mortar [organized religions] that people follow through the “letter of the law,” which can captivate people and lull them away into false securities, if they don’t wake up! “These are they who are of Paul, and of Apollos, and of Cephas. These are they ***who say they are some of one and some of another, some of Christ*** and some of John, and some of Moses, and some Elias, and some of Esaias, and some of Isaiah, and some of Enoch” [D&C 76: 99-100].

The “spirit of the law,” through “faith alone” [Romans 5:1; Hebrews 11:3] is the “the doctrine of Jesus Christ” [See Lectures on Faith 1:1; 7:15-17] and it is

available to all people right now, this very moment if they are awake enough to embrace it completely. It is everyone's innate birthright, and inheritance!

The "letter of the law" is for all who are asleep. The "spirit of the law" is for all who are awake! In the parable of the 10 Virgins, we "all slumbered and slept" [Matthew 25]. Symbolizing "we all" go through this process to one degree or another. Then the wake-up call is heard! The wake-up call has been out since Adam and Eve left the Garden, but not too many are listening! The word "Holiness" as defined in the LDS Bible Dictionary is one of many wake-up calls. Let's list a few more. Are you listening? Do you believe these statements or are you still asleep?

1. "God is no respecter of persons" but of a godly character! When it comes to personal salvation, it matters not what religion or race we come from! [Acts 10:34] [Romans 2:11] [D&C 1:35; 38:16, 26-27].
2. "Power and Authority" to return to our Father in Heaven is innate to each of us! [1Nephi 10:17-22] [Words of Mormon 1:17] [Lectures on Faith 1:1; 7:15-17]. Therefore "pure religion" is about "keeping ourselves unspotted from the world" and becoming holy, honest and virtuous inside our soul. "Let thy bowels also be full of charity towards ALL men, and to the household of FAITH, [by faith alone!] and let virtue garnish thy thought UNCEASINGLY; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God; and the doctrine of the priesthood [is the power and authority to love purely in virtue and honesty] shall distil upon thy soul as the dues of heaven." What is the "doctrine of the priesthood?" It is to manifest the attributes of godliness found in D&C 121: 41-42 and it "distils" upon any "soul as the dues of heaven" who become "one" with them!
3. "Ye were also in the beginning with the Father; that which is Spirit, even the Spirit of truth; And truth is knowledge of things as they are, and as they were, and as they are to come; And whatsoever is more or less than this is the spirit of that wicked one who was a liar from the beginning (D&C Section 93:23 - 25). You are a self-existing being without beginning of days or end of years, which means, you are an eternal being and always have been [Abraham 3:18]. [James 1:17-27].
4. The **atonement** is an eternal principle and is innate to each of us. It literally means "**one with God**." It means to become one in godliness and holiness of character! "And let every man esteem his brother as himself, and practice

virtue and holiness before me...I say unto you ***be one***; and if ye are not ***one*** ye are not mine” [D&C 38:24-27]. “For the natural man is an enemy to God” (Book of Mormon | Mosiah 3:19). And to ***“be one”*** is to be ***“born of God!”***

This essay is for informational purposes only and is the opinion of the author.

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