

Zion - Places of Security

Homes, Stakes of Zion, Temples

Joseph Smith – TPJS pg. 161 (July 1839) - No Peace But in Zion

Whatever you may hear about me or Kirtland, take no notice of it; for if it be a place of refuge, the devil will use his greatest efforts to trap the Saints. You must make yourselves acquainted with those men who like Daniel pray three times a day toward the House of the Lord. Look to the Presidency and receive instruction. Every man who is afraid, covetous, will be taken in a snare. The time is soon coming, when ***no man will have any peace but in Zion and her stakes***. I saw men hunting the lives of their own sons, and brother murdering brother, women killing their own daughters, and daughters seeking the lives of their mothers. I saw armies arrayed against armies. I saw blood, desolation, fires. The Son of Man has said that the mother shall be against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother. These things are at our doors. They will follow the Saints of God from city to city. Satan will rage, and the spirit of the devil is now enraged. I know not how soon these things will take place; but with a view of them, shall I cry peace? No; I will lift up my voice and testify of them. How long you will have good crops, and ***the famine*** be kept off, I do not know; when the fig tree leaves, know then that the summer is nigh at hand.

D&C 115:5-6 (April 1838)

5 Verily I say unto you all: Arise and shine forth, that thy light may be a standard for the nations;

6 And that the gathering together upon the **land of Zion**, and upon **her stakes**, may be for a defense, and for a refuge from the storm, and from wrath when it shall be poured out without mixture upon the whole earth.

Russell M. Nelson – Embrace the Future with Faith – General Conference October 2020

“Moroni fortified every Nephite city with embankments, forts, and walls. When the Lamanites came against them, they ‘were astonished exceedingly, because of the wisdom of the Nephites in preparing their places of security.’

- “Similarly, as turmoil rages around us, we need to create places where we are safe, both **physically** and **spiritually**. When your Home becomes a personal sanctuary of faith—where the Spirit resides—your **Home** becomes the first line of defense.”
- “Likewise, the **Stakes of Zion** are “a refuge from the storm” because they are led by those who hold **Priesthood Keys** and exercise priesthood authority. As you continue to follow the counsel of those whom the Lord has authorized to guide you, you will feel greater safety.”
- “**The Temple**—the house of the Lord—is a place of security unlike any other.”

Isaiah 4:5-6

5 And the Lord will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory [of Zion] shall be a defence.

6 And there shall be a tabernacle for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from storm and from rain.

Isaiah 4:5-6 [with substitutions]

5 And the Lord will create upon every [Home] of mount Zion, and upon [The Stakes of Zion], a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory [of Zion] shall be a [Place of Security].

6 And there shall be a [Temple] for a shadow in the daytime from the heat, and for a [Place of Security unlike any other], and for a covert from storm and from rain.

Temple Building at a Brisk Pace

Russell M. Nelson – COVID-19 and Temples – General Conference April 2021

“We are building now for the future! Forty-one temples are presently under construction or renovation. Just last year, despite the pandemic, ground was broken for 21 new temples!”

“As I announce our plans to construct 20 more temples...”

“Temples are a vital part of the Restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ in its fulness. Ordinances of the temple fill our lives with power and strength available in no other way. We thank God for those blessings.”

Bible Dictionary – Temple

A temple is literally a house of the Lord, a holy sanctuary in which sacred ceremonies and ordinances of the gospel are performed by and for the living and also in behalf of the dead. A place where the Lord may come, it is the *most holy of any place of worship on the earth*. *Only the home* can compare with the temple in sacredness.

Russell M. Nelson – Welcome Message – General Conference April 2021

“The huge project to renovate the Salt Lake Temple continues. From my office I have a front-row seat to watch the work taking place on the temple plaza. As I have watched workers dig out old tree roots, plumbing, wiring, and a leaky fountain, I have thought about the need for each of us to remove, with the Savior’s help, the old debris in our lives.”

D&C 38:24-27

24 And let every man esteem his brother as himself, and practice virtue and holiness before me.

25 And again I say unto you, let every man esteem his brother as himself.

26 For what man among you having twelve sons, and is no respecter of them, and they serve him obediently, and he saith unto the one: Be thou clothed in robes and sit thou here; and to the other: Be thou clothed in rags and sit thou there—and looketh upon his sons and saith I am just?

27 Behold, this I have given unto you as a parable, and it is even as I am. I say unto you, be one; and **if ye are not one ye are not mine**.

Moses 7:16-18

16 And from that time forth there were wars and bloodshed among them; but the Lord came and dwelt with his people, and they dwelt in righteousness.

17 The fear of the Lord was upon all nations, so great was the glory of the Lord, which was upon his people. And the Lord blessed the land, and they were blessed upon the mountains, and upon the high places, and did flourish.

18 And the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of **one heart** and **one mind**, and **dwelt in righteousness**; and there was **no poor among them**.

D&C 105:4-6 (June 1834)

4 [My people] are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom;

5 And Zion **cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom**; otherwise I cannot receive her unto myself.

6 And my people must needs be **chastened** until they learn obedience, if it must needs be, by the things which they suffer.

THE FAMILY - A PROCLAMATION TO THE WORLD (September 1995)

...we warn that the disintegration of the family will bring upon individuals, communities, and nations the calamities foretold by ancient and modern prophets.

Russell M. Nelson – Embrace the Future with Faith – General Conference October 2020

“My dear sisters, we have so much to look forward to! The Lord placed you here now because He knew you had the capacity to negotiate the complexities of the **latter part of these latter days**. He knew you would grasp the **grandeur** of His work and be eager to help bring it to pass.”

”I promise that as we create places of security, prepare our minds to be faithful to God, and never stop preparing, God will bless us. He will **‘deliver us**; yea, insomuch that he [will] speak peace to our souls, and [will] grant unto us great faith, and ... cause us that **we [can] hope for our deliverance in him.**’ ”