



“All Flesh is in Mine Hand”

Show Notes

Podcast General Description:

Follow Him: A *Come, Follow Me* Podcast with Hank Smith & John Bytheway

Do you ever feel that preparing for your weekly *Come, Follow Me* lesson falls short? Join hosts Hank Smith and John Bytheway as they interview experts to make your study for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' *Come, Follow Me* course not only enjoyable but original and educational. If you are looking for resources to make your study fresh, faithful, and fun--no matter your age--then join us every Sunday.

Podcast Episode Description:

Part 1:

Have you ever felt that your efforts fall short? Dr. Gerrit Dirkmaat returns and teaches how the elders are called to travel from Kirtland to Jackson County, Missouri, and, “Preach by the way.” In their month-long travels, some work harder than others and the Lord addresses this and us and encourages us to remember that our testimony of the gospel is like a “talent.” This episode encourages us to serve and teach because the Lord is with us, as with the early Saints.

Part 2:

Dr. Dirkmaat continues teaching that as the difficulties persist and that the Lord commands the Saints to “be of good cheer,” and reminds us that the Savior is “in [our] midst.” We discuss where much anti-LDS literature has been discredited. Dr. Dirkmaat shares dynamic and compelling personal stories that will endow listeners with power because of and through our difficulties. If you only listen to one podcast this week, THIS IS IT.

Timecode:

Part 1

- 00:00 Introduction to the Podcast
- 00:44 Introduction to Dr. Gerrit Dirkmaat
- 04:54 Background to Sections 60-62
- 08:10 Church Faces Difficulties with Headquarters Being in Ohio and Growing Membership in Missouri
- 12:17 Saints Found Success Teaching Native Americans but Government Stops Saints from Teaching
- 15:13 Saints Ask for Direction and Told to Preach Along the Way to Missouri and the Lord Isn't Pleased With Their Missionary Efforts
- 24:25 Northerner Saints are Mistrusted by Southerner Missourians and Begins a Rising Tide of Anti-Mormonism
- 30:57 Joseph's Spelling and Probable Accent
- 32:33 Difficulties Traveling by Steamship via River
- 35:42 Missionaries in Every Time Period Struggle Finding Success and Facing Disappointment
- 38:39 Tension Among the Saints Due to Temperature, Land Disputes, and Travel Difficulties, etc.
- 47:42 The Lord Gives Them a Terrible Experience Travelling via River in Order to Testify to Others the Benefits of Land Travel
- 52:43 Joseph Teaches the Saints Need to Expend Every Effort to Learn by Experience and Compare to Revelation
- 54:30 Satan Controlling the Water and Mormon Mythology
- 57:14 Ezra Booth Experiences False Expectations of Zion
- 1:01:05 For Times We Feel Forsaken by God
- 1:14:00 Elder Maxwell Describes the Knowledge of a Premortal Existence as a “Flood of Light”
- 1:15:00 End of Part I

Part 2

- 00:08 Ezra Booth Begins to Write Against the Church
- 03:08 Doctor Hurlbut Commits Adultery Twice and Then Fights Against the Church
- 07:26 Why Joseph Couldn't Have Written the Book of Mormon

- 09:10 Solomon Spalding Manuscript, Hurlbut's Acquired Affidavits Against Joseph and Booth's *Mormonism Unveiled* Beginning of Serious Antagonism Against the Church and Joseph Smith
- 18:40 No Plausible Explanation for Joseph Creating the Book of Mormon and Spalding Manuscript Discredited by LDS and non-LDS Historians
- 23:47 Joan of Arc Viewed Through a Historian's Lens
- 26:00 Dr. Dirkmaat's Personal Story with Anti-Mormons During Fast and Testimony Meeting (aka The Creation of the Dirk Moss Historical Society)
- 35:35 Ezra Booth Tries to Return to the Methodist Ministry but Dies an Agnostic
- 36:59 Section 62 Background: Joseph and Sydney Were to Travel Quickly and Missionaries Were to Walk and Preach on the Way to Conference in Zion in Order to Testify by Their Own Experience
- 43:02 John Shares Personal Story of Inactive Woman Appearing to Her Husband in the Temple, After She had Passed
- 44:39 Dr. Dirkmaat Shares Personal Story About His Late Brother and His Son Kai
- 48:06 Dr. Dirkmaat Shares His Testimony
- 60:04 End of Part II
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Biographical Information:



Gerrit J. Dirkmaat is an associate professor of Church history and doctrine at Brigham Young University. He received his PhD from the University of Colorado in 2010, where he studied nineteenth-century American expansionism and foreign relations. His dissertation was titled “Enemies Foreign and Domestic: US Relations with Mormons in the US Empire in North America, 1844–1854.” He worked as a historian and writer for the Church History Department from 2010 to 2014 with the Joseph Smith Papers Project and served as a volume coeditor/historian for Documents volume 1, the lead volume editor on Documents volume 3, and has continued to work as a volunteer editor for the Joseph Smith Papers project on Administrative Records, Council of Fifty, Minutes, March 1844–January 1846 and Documents volume 8. He is the coauthor, along with Michael Hubbard MacKay, of the award-winning book *From Darkness unto Light: Joseph Smith’s Translation and Publication of the Book of Mormon*, published by the BYU Religious Studies Center and Deseret Book in 2015. He is also the author of dozens of academic articles as well. In 2015 he published a groundbreaking analysis of the differences between the originally recorded versions Utah-era sermons of Brigham Young and other Church leaders and those later published in the *Journal of Discourses*. This article, “The Prophets Have Spoken, But What Did They Say?: Examining the Differences Between George D. Watt’s Original Shorthand Notes and the Sermons Published in the *Journal of Discourses*,” won the 2016 Article of Excellence Award from the Mormon History Association. Before his work at the Church History Department, he served as the senior assistant editor of *Diplomatic History* from 2003 to 2009. He currently serves the Research Director for the Religious Studies Center and on their Review Board, as editor of the academic journal *Latter-day Saint Historical Studies* published by the Ensign Peak Foundation, and on the Church History editorial board for *BYU Studies*. He and his wife, Angela, have four children.

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