

EPISODE 25

Dr. S. Michael Wilcox



D&C 64-66

“The Lord Requireth the Heart and a Willing Mind”

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 25 Description:

Part 1:

Have you ever struggled with forgiving others or forgiving yourself? Do you ever doubt if you can truly be forgiven? Join Hank, John, and Brother S. Michael Wilcox as they delve into Doctrine and Covenants 64 and discuss forgiveness. What did the Lord have to say about forgiveness and mercy to the early saints? Brother Wilcox teaches that a key to forgiving is to celebrate the good and forgive everything else--hatred can end only through love.

Part 2:

We continue with Brother S. Michael Wilcox as he uses Russian literature to expound on the power of Doctrine and Covenants 65. What does giving someone an onion have to do with being invited to the long-awaited marriage feast? As they transition to Section 66, they focus on the importance of bearing testimony--of first believing and acting on that belief--and then receiving a witness. Listen as Brother Wilcox bears his powerful testimony of the goodness of Jesus Christ’s gospel.

Timecode:

Part 1

- 01:00 Introduction of S. Michael Wilcox
- 02:42 Background of Doctrine and Covenants Sections 64-66
- 05:30 How the JST provided revelations that became our Doctrine and Covenants
- 10:19 How the First Vision applies to these sections
- 14:15 Dr. Wilcox loves the Joseph of the Grove
- 17:12 The Revealer is merciful and forgiving
- 21:09 Eastern religions deal with suffering--Christianity, Judaism, and Islam deals with sin
- 25:10 The Lord tells us to stop “seeking occasion” to find fault with Joseph
- 31:28 The Lord forgives and commands us to and to become Zion
- 37:48 Discussion of the Unforgiving Servant
- 46:43 The Church is full of “Pink People”
- 48:53 Not Everyone is to rush to Missouri
- 54:22 Discussion of the Laborers in the Vineyard
- 56:11 The Lord loves a “willing heart and willing mind”
- 59:45 Dante’s Two Rivers in the *Divine Comedy*
- 1:04:50 What the word judgment means in the scriptures
- 1:06:34 End of Part I

Part 2

- 00:17 Section 65’s last verse is a prayer for the Savior to return
- 02:15 Orthodox Christians familiar with the Bride and Bridegroom Metaphor
- 06:23 Story from Fyodor Dostoyevsky’s *The Brothers Karamazov*
- 23:43 How the Dostoyevsky story relates to Section 65 of the Doctrine and Episode
- 27:15 William McLellin’s direction from the Lord in Section 66
- 29:30 God reasons with us
- 31:14 Discussion about the statement, “I know the Church is true”
- 38:37 William McLellin is commanded to bear testimony of the goodness of the gospel.
- 44:29 Dr. S. Michael Wilcox’s testimony

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Biographical Information:



S. Michael Wilcox received his PhD from the University of Colorado and taught for many years at the LDS Institute of Religion adjacent to the University of Utah. He has spoken to packed crowds at BYU Education Week and has hosted tours to the Holy Land and to Church history sites. He has served in a variety of callings, including as bishop and counselor in a stake presidency. He has written many articles and books, including *House of Glory*, *Sunset*, *10 Great Souls I Want to Meet in Heaven*, and *Finding Hope*. He and his late wife, Laurie, are the parents of five children.

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