

EPISODE 29

Dr. Craig K. Manscill



D & C 77-80

"I Will Lead You Along"

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 had a question you would ask the Lord? Joseph and Sydney Rigdon asked the Lord about specific parts of the book of Revelation. They received answers that help us understand mercy, the Second Coming, and the language of symbolism. Dr. Craig Manscill teaches how Doctrine and Covenants 77 helps us understand how God reveals his mysteries to the earnest and devoted seekers.

Part 2:

Dr. Manscill continues to discuss the United Firm, the Law of Consecration, and tithing. The early Saints were called to meet both temporal and spiritual needs as we are today. We discuss how the Church provides covenants as well as material assistance to advance the cause of Zion. Meet some early Saints (as well as modern Saints) who served where they were called and received gifts from the Lord.

Timecode:

Part 1

- 00:00 Welcome to followHIM with Hank Smith and John Bytheway
- 01:11 Introduction of Dr. Craig Manscill
- 03:15 Background to Section 77
- 07:53 How to use Section 77 to understand the Book of Revelation
- 12:02 John the Revelator's vision on the Isle of Patmos
- 14:50 What is Apocalyptic Literature?
- 17:57 The Book of Revelation is a book of hope: Jesus Christ prevails
- 20:30 Section 77 is Section with 15 Questions and Answers and begins with question about Revelation 4:6
- 24:40 The Lord as Creator and the Sea of Glass
- 27:05 God sees you as you will become
- 29:03 D&C 77:2-3: The questions about the four beasts in John 4:6 and the answers are both figurative and literal
- 31:53 How to help students navigate between literal and figurative in scripture
- 34:23 Commentary on the Elders from the 7 Churches
- 37:06 Commentary on the book which was sealed with 7 seals
- 39:36 The Savior accepted the Father's Plan
- 41:25 The purpose of scripture is to teach about God
- 44:54 Discussion of the 144,000
- 50:25 Section 77 discusses the Gathering of Israel
- 52:57 Speculation may cause us to lose the Spirit when teaching
- 54:24 Eating a book is to be understood to accept a calling
- 58:31 We are commanded to feast upon the words of God
- 1:00:25 Commentary on the two prophets that die and are raised up
- 1:05:54 One purpose of Section 77 is to be a covenant-keeping people
- 1:09:33 End of Part I

Part 2:

- 00:00 Welcome to Part II
- 00:07 Section 78 background information
- 04:08 Instructions for temporal welfare of the Saints
- 06:58 Discussion of the difference between the United Firm and the Law of Consecration
- 10:33 Plan A was to build a temple in Jackson County, MO, but the Saints failed
- 13:33 Temporal issues are spiritual issues to the Lord
- 15:08 The Saints are instructed to take care of the poor and needy
- 19:16 President Gordon B. Hinckley paid back the early Saints' debts with interest
- 22:49 If can give our money, our time, and our talents to building Zion
- 26:09 The story of the widow's mite: she is allowed to give in order to receive blessings
- 27:07 The Perpetual Education Fund in the Philippines and Bolivia
- 29:09 Lydia and Edward Partridge and other wife and husbands sacrifice together
- 30:41 The mission of the Church can be summarized as live, care, invite, unite
- 32:19 Backgrounds to Sections 79 and 80
- 33:21 Jared Carter's background and two mission calls (he is called to return to where he had already served)
- 36:54 Jared Carter was to return to former mission to find John Tanner whereas others could serve wherever they chose
- 43:42 John Tanner story is a movie called "A Treasure in Heaven"
- 44:33 Dr. Manscill relates story about John Tanner's descendent and a BYU tour
- 47:12 Dr. Manscill shares his thoughts about the Restoration, Joseph Smith, and the Lord

Sources:

"I Quit Other Business': Early Missionaries". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/revelations-in-context/i-quit-other-business-early-missionaries?lang=eng>.

"A Guide To The Doctrine And Covenants | Religious Studies Center". 2021. *Rsc-Legacy.Byu.Edu*.

<https://rsc-legacy.byu.edu/archived/selected-articles/guide-doctrine-and-covenants>.

Arrington, John. 2021. "The John Tanner Family". *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/1979/03/the-john-tanner-family?lang=eng>.

Bednar, David A. 2021. "Called To The Work". *Abn.Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.

<https://abn.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2017/04/called-to-the-work.14?lang=eng#14>.

Black, Susan Easton. 2021. "Jared Carter | Doctrine And Covenants Central". *Doctrine And*

Covenants Central. <https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/people-of-the-dc/jared-carter/>.

- Black, Susan Easton. 2021. "Newel K. Whitney | Doctrine And Covenants Central". *Doctrine And Covenants Central*. <https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/people-of-the-dc/newel-k-whitney/>.
- Black, Susan Easton. 2021. "Sidney Rigdon | Doctrine And Covenants Central". *Doctrine And Covenants Central*. <https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/people-of-the-dc/sidney-rigdon/>.
- "Church Historical Site: Jonson Home". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/learn/historic-sites/ohio/johnson-home?lang=eng>.
- Draper, Richard. 2021. "Understanding Images And Symbols In The Book Of Revelation | Religious Studies Center". *Rsc.Byu.Edu*.
<https://rsc.byu.edu/shedding-light-new-testament/understanding-images-symbols-book-revelation>.
- Eyring, Henry. 2021. "Reflections Of A Scientist - Deseret Book". *Deseretbook.Com*.
https://deseretbook.com/p/reflections-scientist-henry-eyring-464?variant_id=112816-ebook.
- Harper, Steven C. 2021. ""All Things Are The Lord's": The Law Of Consecration In The Doctrine And Covenants | Religious Studies Center". *Rsc.Byu.Edu*.
<https://rsc.byu.edu/doctrine-covenants-revelations-context/all-things-are-lords-law-consecration-doctrine-covenants>.
- Harper, Steven C. 2021. "Doctrine & Covenants 77 | Doctrine And Covenants Central". *Doctrine And Covenants Central*. <https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/section-77/>.
- Harper, Steven C. 2021. "Historical Context And Background Of D&C 79 | Doctrine And Covenants Central". *Doctrine And Covenants Central*.
<https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/historical-context/dc-79/>.
- "Hiram, Ohio | Doctrine And Covenants Central". 2021. *Doctrine And Covenants Central*.
<https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/hiram-ohio/>.
- "Jesse Gause – Biography". 2021. *Josephsmithpapers.Org*.
<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/person/jesse-gause>.
- "Joseph Smith'S Bible Translation". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/revelations-in-context/joseph-smiths-bible-translation?lang=eng>.
- "July 12–18. Doctrine And Covenants 77–80: “I Will Lead You Along”". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/come-follow-me-for-individuals-and-families-doctrine-and-covenants-2021/29?lang=eng>.
- Manscill, Craig. 2021. "Craig Manscill". *Religious Education*.
<https://religion.byu.edu/directory/craig-manscill>.

- Nelson, Russell M. 2021. "The Gathering Of Scattered Israel". *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2006/10/the-gathering-of-scattered-israel?lang=eng>.
- "Newel K. Whitney And The United Firm". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/revelations-in-context/newel-k-whitney-and-the-united-firm?lang=eng>.
- Ostler, Craig James. 2021. "The Laws Of Consecration, Stewardship, And Tithing | Religious Studies Center". *Rsc.Byu.Edu*.
<https://rsc.byu.edu/sperry-symposium-classics-doctrine-covenants/laws-consecration-stewardship-tithing-0>.
- Parkin, Max. 2021. "Joseph Smith And The United Firm: The Growth And Decline Of The Church's First Master Plan Of Business And Finance, Ohio And Missouri, 1832-1834". *BYU Scholarsarchive*. <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq/vol46/iss3/1/>.
- "Preface". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/manual/revelations-in-context/preface?lang=eng>.
- "Section 77 And Book Of Revelation Scholarship | Religious Studies Center". 2021. *Rsc.Byu.Edu*.
<https://rsc.byu.edu/vol-22-no-2-2021/section-77-book-revelation-scholarship>.
- Strathearn, Gaye. 2021. "Discipleship In The Olivet Discourse In Mark'S Gospel | Religious Studies Center". *Rsc.Byu.Edu*.
<https://rsc.byu.edu/ behold-lamb-god/discipleship-olivet-discourse-marks-gospel>.
- "Susan Winder Tanner". 2021. *History.Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/content/susan-winder-tanner?lang=eng>.
- "The Perpetual Education Fund". 2021. *Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/self-reliance/pef-perpetual-education-fund?lang=eng>.
- "US President Visits Welfare Square". 2021. *Newsroom.Churchofjesuschrist.Org*.
<https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org/article/church-leaders-to-visit-with-us-president>.

Biographical Information:



Brother Manscill's formative years were in the small farming community of Farr West on the outskirts of Ogden, Utah. He served in the Ohio West Virginia mission and is married to Jana Hancey. They are the parents of eight children. He has been a religious educator for over 25 years with either the Church Educational System or most recently the Brigham Young University Religion Department. He received his undergraduate degree at Weber State College, and his Masters and Ph.D. from Brigham Young University. Brother Manscill enjoys gardening, the great outdoors, travel, and is an ultra distance runner. His hobbies include beekeeping, reading, and photography.

Courses Taught: Doctrine and Covenants, Teachings of the Living Prophets, Doctrines of the Gospel

Areas of Expertise: 19th Century Church History, South Pacific Church History, Doctrine and Covenants, Presidents of the Church, and document editing.

Areas of Research: The coming forth of the Doctrine and Covenants; Zion's Camp; The Life of Joseph Smith; and LDS History in the State of Illinois.

Languages: Fijian (read and spoken)

Fair Use Notice

The *Follow Him Podcast with Hank Smith and John Bytheway* may make use of copyrighted material, the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright holder. This constitutes a “fair use” and any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, the material on this podcast is offered publicly and without profit, to the public uses or the internet for comment and nonprofit educational and informational purposes. Copyright Disclaimer under Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976, allowance is made for “fair use” for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research. In such cases, fair use is permitted.

No copyright(s) is/are claimed.

The content is broadcasted for study, research, and educational purposes.
The broadcaster gains no profit from broadcasted content. This falls under “Fair Use” guidelines: www.copyright.gov/fls/fl102.html.

Note:

The *Follow Him Podcast with Hank Smith and John Bytheway* is not affiliated with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints nor Brigham Young University. The opinions expressed on episodes represent the views of the guest and podcasters alone. While the ideas presented may vary from traditional understandings or teachings, they in no way reflect criticism of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day leaders, policies, or practices.

EPISODE 29 • PART I



Dr. Craig K. Manscill

D&C 77-80



Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:01</u>	Welcome to followHim, a weekly podcast, dedicated to helping individuals and families with their <i>Come, Follow Me</i> study. I'm Hank Smith.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:00:09</u>	And I'm John Bytheway.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:11</u>	We love to learn.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:00:11</u>	We love to laugh.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:13</u>	We want to learn and laugh with you.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:00:15</u>	As together, we followHIM.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:20</u>	Hello, my friend. Welcome to another episode of followHim. I am your host Hank Smith. I am here with the indomitable, John Bytheway. Hello, John.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:00:30</u>	I don't even know what that means. I was domitable at one point, but then I've ...
Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:33</u>	Yes, you were [crosstalk 00:00:34].
John Bytheway:	<u>00:00:34</u>	But then I've striven to become indomitable.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:00:38</u>	All right. We thank you so much for joining us. Hey, make sure you find us on social media. You can find us on Instagram, on Facebook. You can find transcripts and show notes on followhim.co , and be sure to rate and review the podcast. It really helps us out. John, as usual, we have a great mind with us today. Someone who has dedicated their life and career to Church History. Tell us who we have.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:01:11</u>	Oh, I will. We have Dr. Craig Manscill with us today. I have seen him many times on the BYU Roundtable discussions that are still on YouTube now. Brother Manscill's formative years were in the small farming community of Farr West. I thought that was so cool. How appropriate, somebody that there's a Far West in Missouri. This is a Farr, it has an extra R, Farr West on the

outskirts of Ogden. Brother Manscill served in the Ohio West Virginia Mission and is married to Jana Hancey. They're the parents of eight children. He has been a religious educator for over 25 years with either Church Educational System, and more recently, at BYU Religious Education. He received his undergraduate degree at Weaver State College and his master's and PhD from BYU. He enjoys gardening, the great outdoors, travel, and is an ultra distance runner.

- John Bytheway: 00:02:06 That sounds indomitable to me. His hobbies include beekeeping. I don't think we've had that distinction here yet, Hank, to have a beekeeper, beekeeping, reading, and photography. He teaches Doctrine and Covenants, Teachings of Living Prophets: Doctrines of the Gospel. His areas of expertise are 19th century Church History, South Pacific church history, Doctrine and Covenants, presence of the church in Fiji and document editing. The thing I found most interesting in this bio was that he reads and speaks Fijian. They speak that in West Virginia, how did that happen?
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:02:44 I had a Church assignment in Fiji, Suva, Fiji, at the Church school in Suva for three years.
- John Bytheway: 00:02:55 Wonderful.
- Hank Smith: 00:02:56 Oh wow.
- John Bytheway: 00:02:56 Oh, that's great. Well, that's a wonderful bio and we're so glad to have you. Welcome to followHIM.
- Hank Smith: 00:03:05 Well, I think we're ready to get started. Let's jump into this week's lesson, Craig. We're studying Sections 77 through 80.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:03:15 Right. Let's start with Section 77 then. Section 77. It is a section that's associated with the Joseph Smith Translation of the Bible. As early as 1830, once Joseph Smith had organized the Church, Joseph Smith's next mission was to bring about the JST Translation. He's presently in Hiram, Ohio. This is Section 77 we're talking about. Section 76 was also a result of Joseph's JST work, of course. Now, here we are about a month later Joseph and Sidney are still up in Hiram, Ohio. They ask a series of questions about the symbolism in the book of John so that we're talking about John the Revelator, the Book of Revelation.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:04:13 This is a 22-chapter book and Joseph Smith will ask 15 questions. Sidney Rigdon is the scribe, and he's asking questions and he's being answered by the Spirit as he's working with the JST. He's looking at these verses, looking at the Finney Bible, the

pulpit-sized Bible that was published in Cooperstown in New York, that's in front of him. And he's going through the Book of Revelations, especially from chapters 4 to chapters 11. And Joseph will come up with these 15 questions. Now, apparently, this is after the fact that he's been working on the JST during this month of March.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:04:59</u> | Now these questions are percolated probably between him and Sidney. Sidney is a great scribe and they've been thinking and talking, and finally, Joseph sits down in a revelatory manner and then gives us this revelation, at least it's recorded, we assume by Sidney Rigdon. It could have been Jesse Gause. We're not exactly certain of that, but nonetheless. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:05:24</u> | Yeah, this is fascinating because it's a different section than ... I remember reading this one as a kid and I was like, wait, what? Question and Answer with the Lord? Like, I would be asking different questions. So, it really helps that you're saying, no, we're studying the Book of Revelation. Because I would be asking other questions of the Lord saying ... |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:05:44</u> | Oh boy, it's like ... |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:05:45</u> | When are you coming again? Things like that. But it's specific to the Joseph Smith Translation, what they were doing. Hiram, Ohio, that's the John Johnson Farm, right? |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:05:57</u> | Yeah, they're up at the John Johnson Farm in Hiram, Ohio. It's interesting, this is a unique revelation. It wasn't originally included in the Book of Commandments, or the 1835 Edition, or the 1844 Edition of the Doctrine and Covenants. This revelation is included in the 1876 Edition published in Utah, under the direction of Brigham Young. Brigham Young gave Orson Pratt, the Church Historian at the time and the oldest apostle serving in the Quorum of the Twelve, the assignment to give us a new edition of the Doctrine and Covenants. Orson Pratt included 26 new revelations that hadn't been included, and this is one of those 26. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:06:49</u> | Now, to give that a little bit more context and why that's important to understand what's going on here is that Orson Pratt was just this great scribe, and he loved to use the scriptures to validate Joseph Smith and the great doctrines that he taught. This revelation hadn't been included in the Doctrine and Covenants, and it's also worthy to note here that other important revelations that had been left out of the D&C at this point are such as, listen to this, D&C 2, D&C 13, D&C 110, and they're all to do with what visitations from heavenly messengers. |

That's where Section 77 fits into. It's a great vision of great vision of the apocalypse or events leading up to the Second Coming from John the Revelator.

- Hank Smith: 00:07:53 Okay. It seems to me that, Craig, correct me if I'm wrong here, but I think I've heard you say this before, that this is not meant to be an all understanding of the Book of Revelation. It's meant to open the door to us saying, "Hey, I want to understand more of the Book of Revelation, maybe a little taste." Would that be correct?
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:08:15 Yeah. You're right on, Hank, on that, is what this is, is these are keys for Latter-day Saints to better understand the Book of Revelation. Latter-day Saints, because of modern-day revelation from Joseph Smith, and the Book of Mormon even yeah, Nephi is involved in this. In 1 Nephi chapter 14, Nephi sees this whole, the panorama of the history of the world, but he was told not to write about it, whereas John was told to write about it.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:08:47 Here we have, John the Revelator is given it, and he's working on the JST. We, as Latter-day Saints are admonished to ... "Great are the words of Isaiah," and great are the words of John. Joseph Smith said at one time in his teaching, "The book of Revelation is a plain book for all of us to understand." Let us know the difference between where Joseph is with scripture understanding and where we are as Latter-day Saints, because to him, it was plain, and he asked these 15 questions to help us as Latter-day Saints, as much as himself, to better understand what's going on in this great vision.
- John Bytheway: 00:09:33 Yeah. I've always thought that ... I've heard it said, well, it's easy for Joseph to say. He probably saw the same vision, so we're trying to read it. We're reading the book. He saw the movie.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:09:45 Yeah. Joseph's in great company, Enoch, Joel, Jeremiah, Isaiah ...
- John Bytheway: 00:09:52 Nephi.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:09:55 Yeah. The brother of Jared. These prophets have seen the panorama. Most of them haven't been able to write about it, but here John is asked to do that. Maybe I can give a little bit of more historical background to who's the author of it to make sure, because the world sees this book differently, the Book of Revelation, they don't necessarily agree with where we come from our standpoint of our LDS history and doctrine on this great book. We certainly believe Nephi saw and identified in, firstly, 5-14 verses, you can look at those 16 through 19, that this

was John the Revelator, the same John, the Beloved, the son of Zebedee and the Son of Thunder.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:10:43</u> | His brother was of course, James, and it is Peter, James, and who? |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:10:54</u> | John. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:10:54</u> | John, who appeared to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery to restore the Melchizedek Priesthood. Yes, we believe John was translated, a translated being, and we believe that where he received the revelation was on the Isles of Patmos in the Algerian Sea. There, he had been exiled by Nero, the Emperor of Rome to ... Yeah. So, he'd been exiled out there. Fortunately, I've been out to Patmos, had a chance to look around in the cave where supposedly he had received this great manifestation. When he calls it a vision, what this vision is about is John is allowed to pick up a pen and write down what he sees. If you can remember Section 76, when Joseph and Sidney are sitting there and receiving it, Joseph says, "I see this". |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:11:54</u> | And Sidney says, "I see the same." Well, John didn't have a companion or an eye witness to see what he sees. He was by himself. And he takes a pen and he's asked to write this down. In the first chapter, his audience, so who he's writing to, are the seven churches in Asia minor, and Ephesus being one of those. Today, they all reside in the country of Turkey just to give you an idea. That's who he's writing to, that's his audience, but then, of course, his audience now is, since it was canonized and put into scripture in the New Testament, it's in the entire Christian world. There is, and of course, another book that is treated like the Book of Revelation being apocalyptic and symbolic. That's sort of the setting with John and that's what's going on here. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:12:49</u> | One of the points, so maybe I can just sort of, what is this vision that he sees? John is seen ... The big picture starting in the fourth chapter of the Book of Revelation, John sees a door is opened, and through that door, he sees into the heavens and he sees a throne, and upon that throne is our God. Around him are the seven candlesticks, which later on, we learn that candle sticks very well, might represent great patriarchs or prophets fits in the latter days, but there are seven candlesticks. In front of him is this great globe or Urim and Thummim or sea of glass that's in front of him, and seated around him are 24 elders. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:13:41</u> | 24 elders who are supposedly associated with the seven churches that are in Asia minor. As the vision unfolds then, John, the God of heaven who is on the throne, and Jesus, the Lamb of |

God, is there next to his side, on his right hand. The God of heaven holds up a book. A book appears in his hand and he holds it up. In that book or a scroll, it's either a book or a scroll, there are seven seals on it. Who takes the book from the God of heaven? The Savior himself, who is the only one worthy and qualified to open the seven seals, both symbolically, in a sense literally when he opened up his seal of his dispensation in the Meridian of Time when he came into mortality.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:14:40</u> | There's the seven seals, and that's really what the rest of the vision is about is the opening of these seven seals. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:14:50</u> | Craig, can you talk about just the ... I've heard apocalyptic described as a type of writing, like in Daniel, Ezekiel, and even 1 Nephi 14. Can you talk about the difference between our average scriptures and what apocalyptic scriptures are? |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:15:09</u> | If this is a Greek word that means to unveil or to reveal that which is hidden from mankind. It's cloaked in symbolism of, in this case, either four beasts or four horses, or just a number of things that are going on. It's apocalyptic in that it reveals events prior to Jesus's first coming and His Second Coming. A good deal of the Revelation, of the chapters, deal with prior to his Second Coming, his Second Coming and events after his Second Coming. So, it reveals John, is what it's doing, it's revealing things that have been found in no other place in scripture, in our canonized scripture, meaning the biblical scripture. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:16:05</u> | Would you say that's true then of the other books that seem to be written in this style, like Ezekiel and Daniel, they're revealing things that are nowhere else? |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:16:13</u> | That's correct. Yeah, and Isaiah. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:16:16</u> | Yeah. That helped me just to know, this is a different sounding kind of scripture, and there's things that are even hard to visualize. I remember Richard Draper saying, "Well, maybe it's better to listen to Revelation than to try to picture it, to hear the symbols." That helped me like, oh, okay, I'll approach it differently. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:16:36</u> | Right. You bring up Richard Draper, one of our great colleagues there at BYU who's retired now, but I'll tell you, Richard, there was ... When he taught the Book of Revelation, it was amazing. If you don't, I have his book here, and it's titled, <i>Opening the Seven Seals</i> . That's what the main story is here and showing the serpents and the dragon who symbolizes Satan and Lucifer, both |

in the premortal life and the mortal life, and even the postmortal life when he goes into and he's bound in the Latter-days, talked about in this revelation. But the revelation really focuses on, as the depiction here of the picture, it focuses on the Lamb of God and his role in bringing about and overcoming the great evils that will confront mankind and Christianity in the latter days.

John Bytheway: 00:17:34

One of the things I remember Richard Draper saying that I thought, oh, that's really interesting, he said that if you don't want scripture tampered with, if you don't want the text tampered with, you write it in code, and apocalyptic was the code. I thought that's a good way to ... Because nobody knew what to do with it. You better copy it literally, even if it sounds strange, but that was the way he put it in code, and maybe 77 helps us decode a little bit.

Hank Smith: 00:17:59

Yeah. At BYU, we started a new class a couple of years ago called Christ the Everlasting Gospel where you don't just study his life, you study broader, back in the Old Testament and further into the New Testament, and it forced me as a teacher to start teaching the Book of Revelation, which is something I really hadn't taught before. Probably the two keys that I've noticed in the Book of Revelation is one is, I didn't realize this is a book of hope. When you think of the Book of Revelation, everybody thinks of destruction and war, and it really finishes with Zion, right?

Hank Smith: 00:18:36

Zion has come on the earth. The last three chapters are all about Zion being on the earth. The other thing that I've realized, and we don't have to go into details here, but the people of John's day would have understood this because he borrows so much from the Old Testament. He borrows from Isaiah, he borrows from Daniel, and these are things that they would have known. That was their scripture, right? And it's a message of hope. I guess I'd always thought of it as, oh, wow, it's just lots of destruction and wars and famines. But yet, when you read those last three chapters, you're feeling this sense of, what did Edward Partridge write? *Let Zion in Her Beauty Rise.*

Hank Smith: 00:19:22

Because of how beautiful it is at the beginning and the end. The middle is a little scary, but the beginning and the end are wonderful.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:19:31

The great story really, the positive hope about the entire Book of Revelation is this, is that good overcomes evil and wins out in the end. It takes the Savior by the power of the priesthood to do that. By his gift and the power, the great creator of this earth

himself will take that magnificent role in those latter days to overcome evil. That's that hopeful message that I think we need to cling to, especially in the day, the times and day that we live in now. I mean, I imagine people are trying to equate COVID some way to one of the plagues talked about, one of the bowls that are spilled and the way he talks about and gives that imagery, because it's been a tough go, and we wonder, well, what's happening?

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:20:27</u> | We've never lived through a pandemic, any of us. I mean, not since 1918. Yeah, we want to look at a few of these verses here, some of the ones that are more prominent. I think the one thing that <i>Come, Follow Me</i> teachers need to try to realize when they're teaching 77, is not to put it into a lesson on the Book of Revelation. I think the best thing is to try to help everyone realize that this is a lifelong process to study this book and it's well worth your time and effort to engage yourself. There are several ... To understand the Book of Revelation and these particular verses, it does really require to look at modern-day scripture. Other places in the Doctrine and Covenants, as well as go to the Book of Mormon to help understand some of the interpretations. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:21:26</u> | Let's start off. I think we've given some pretty good background to understand historically where this comes in, how it fits and who it is, so let's jump right in. There are 15 verses in here, if you look at it and which represents the 15 questions, and each question has an answer to it. Let's jump in on the first one, which is right in Revelations, Chapter 4. "What is the sea of glass spoken of by John in the fourth chapter and the sixth verse of Revelation? The answer is it's the earth in its sanctified in mortal and eternal state." |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:22:08</u> | Our knowledge of the history of the earth, within the context of Christianity, we've taken our understanding to some different levels when it comes to our revelation. For example, let's just ... In verse six, angels do not reside on a planet like this earth, but they reside in the presence of God on a globe like a sea of glass. Now we get the concept of the sea of glass as a globe, and if you could just picture an orb, a globe, and if you remember, when they coronate a king, even today, the Queen of England, what do they put in the hand? |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:22:56</u> | Yeah, globe. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:22:58</u> | A globe, an orb, meaning that their power and authority rains throughout the entire earth, and this is this concept of a globe, like a sea of glass, a fire, where all things for their glory are |

manifested past, present, and future. This really helps us to understand how the God of heaven who has this orb in front of him, which is a Urim and Thummim, and the next verse says, "The place where God resides is a great Urim and Thummim, and he can look into this orb and he can see past, present and future.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:23:35</u> | Now, how would that be? That's an amazing concept. That helps us to understand how God can play someone like we're going to learn about Jared Carter, because he's looking at Jared's past life and his present, and where he needs him in the future to be a missionary. And how he can hear your prayers all at once, all of our prayers on planet earth, as a God, because he has past, present, and future knowledge all rolled into one. Then verse nine, this earth in its sanctified and in mortal state will be made like unto crystal and it'll be Urim and Thummim to the inhabitants who dwell there, and there, whereby all things pertaining to an inferior kingdom and all kingdoms of a lower order will be manifest to those who do well on it. This earth will be whose? Christ's. It will be Christ's. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:24:40</u> | That's really important. He's the creator of this earth. When Jesus created H ₂ O--water--and then he's on the Sea of Galilee, and he says, "Peace, be still," and the water goes from raging to calm. It's the molecules of the water listened to Jesus because it's Christ's world. In those days that John sees the Apocalypse and the coming of these future events, he will be in charge when he comes, and he'll come in ... This time with his power and great glory and in great majesty as he's upon his steed and horse, this time with a red robe ready for battle. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:25:29</u> | Which The Jews wanted for him to be during the Meridian of Time, that's what they wanted from him. Just this little verse, just Joseph is trying to pull this together, what is the sea of glass? And then he gets this inspiration that comes of what it is. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:25:49</u> | I'll just say this. If you want to hurt your mind, if you want your brain to just stretch, think about that statement in verse seven, where he says past, "Present and future are continually before me. I see them all at the same time." I've said that to my teenagers here at home. And they're like, you can almost see their brain going, what? It brings back, what did Isaiah say? "My ways are not your ways. My thoughts are not your thoughts." |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:26:19</u> | I think Joseph Smith talked about "one eternal now." That phrase sound familiar? That with God, time is one eternal now. I like that. Craig pointed out this verse, because the definition of truth in Section 93 is, "Knowledge of things as they are, as they |

were, as they are to come. And there's that past, present, future truth." He knows it all right now.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:26:43</u> | That's a beautiful idea. Craig, you can correct John and I hear when we get it wrong, but I think Joseph Smith taught, in order to worship God, you must know who he is, and this is kind of the idea that you can trust Him because he is omniscient. He sees all things continually before Him. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>00:27:01</u> | All things are present with him. Yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:27:04</u> | Right. I think it can give someone a lot of hope knowing that God not only sees you as you are, but sees you as you're going to become. Well, I think Elder Wirthlin said, "He sees the glorious being. You are going to become, he sees that right now." |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:27:20</u> | He sees the best self of you in the future, and if we'll turn our life over to God and to Christ, they'll make the best of it rather than if we try to direct our lives ourselves. I'm really with you on that. Such a powerful thing we're talking about here, this idea of past, present and future, I love the concept. Truth is truth. That's what I love about what's happening here. There are core truths and supporting truths and we're really getting into these really core ... To know the nature of God is absolutely essential for us, that he's a corporeal being, that he exists, that he is somewhere in the universe. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:28:04</u> | And that he has the power of a God, because he has all knowledge, and the most important thing, he's obedient to all of the knowledge that he has. Knowledge alone won't save us. The Book of Revelations won't save us, but acting upon our knowledge that we learn, acting upon are through ordinances, faith, baptism, etc, that will save us in the latter days so that we can become like God. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:28:36</u> | I like how you're doing this, with this saying Joseph's knowledge from Section 77 started bleeding into his other revelations. That's a cool idea where you're going, oh, he really took these revelations to heart. He really studied them. He really believed himself. Sometimes people will say, "Oh, Joseph, this conman [inaudible 00:28:57]." He believed himself to be getting answers from God himself and getting these and using them in his life. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:29:05</u> | Yeah. You could go to D&C Section 88, verses 18 and 19, and more of this stuff on the history of the earth and the sea of glass that sits there. Joseph will talk about this in several places, but |

yeah. Moving on to another verse, the next couple of verses teach us an important pattern-

Hank Smith: 00:29:27

Craig, are we back in 77?

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:29:28

I'm back in 77, and I'm going to verse 2, 2 and verse 3. I really want to look at these together, because these two verses talk about, the question is, "What are we to understand by the four beasts spoken of in the same verse?" Meaning this John 4:6. Then the second question in verse 3 is, are the four beasts limited to individual beasts or do they represent classes or orders? What I want you to look at as we read the answers here, the pattern is that they are ... The answers that come, they are both symbolic and figurative, as well as literal.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:30:14

It's not one, just one, it could be one or the other, literal versus figurative. If you'll notice, in verse 2, the answer to these ... What about these four beasts? "They are figurative expressions used by John the Revelator in describing heaven, the paradise of God, the happiness of man and beast, and of creeping things, and the fowls of the air, that which is spiritual being in the likeness of that which is temporal, and that was just temporal in the likeness of that which is spiritual. And the spirit of man and the likeness of his person is also the spirit of the beast and every other creature." Then look at the answer to four. "They are limited to four individual beasts."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:31:01

Now they're literal. Before, he sees them as figurative, and now the answer is, well, they're also literal, and they represent ... Yeah, you see, they limit the four individuals which are shown to John, to represent the glory of the classes of beings in their destined order of spirit creation in the enjoyment of their eternal felicity. In other words, yeah, these are animals. Joseph Smith has taught that, in his teachings, that animals will be resurrected, that they're eternal. They have a felicity, they have a creation, they have a purpose in the plan. And he's talking about how these beasts are literal as well as they show a figurative kind of symbolic message that you can find in verse two and three.

Hank Smith: 00:31:53

That's a beautiful idea. That's a scripture study skill we all need to have, is when we get into apocalyptic scripture, being able to try to discern what is literal and what is symbolic, and sometimes it can be both. Not to limit it to just one or the other, because there's a lot of times in, I think it was Elder McConkie, John you'll have to correct me on this, you know Elder McConkie best, but who taught that a lot of the story of Adam and Eve is symbolic, but Adam and Eve are literal human beings. Right? I

don't know. Craig, when you teach your classes, how do you help students navigate between the literal and figurative? That's not easy to do.

- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:32:43 It's not. That's why it's good, when you get into these kinds of settings, to get into some of the good commentaries out there on the Book of Revelation or Isaiah, and listen to men who have been directed by the influence of the Spirit, or particularly those who lived in the days of Joseph Smith and wrote and published on some of the things Joseph is talking about. Joseph has given us a lot of teachings on what this means and what that means. We don't have to flounder with these understandings. Within arm's length, we can find the commentaries and we can find the articles that have been written out there on the Book of Revelation.
- Hank Smith: 00:33:26 Yeah. There's a point in the Book of Revelation where Jesus opens his mouth and a sword comes out. I've asked my students, literal or figurative? And they're saying, I hope it's figurative. I hope it's symbolic. And I said, I think we can ... That one's a symbolic one, right? His words will pierce you to the heart.
- John Bytheway: 00:33:42 Richard Draper says, "It just keeps coming out." It doesn't stop.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:33:46 It just doesn't stop.
- John Bytheway: 00:33:48 It's continuous. So, sword and word are often the word of God, the sword of the Spirit, but it keeps coming, which makes it even stranger to see, but when you hear it, you go, "Oh, okay, the word of God continually comes forth."
- Hank Smith: 00:34:03 Craig, I love that. One question, yes, they're symbolic. The next question, yes, they're literal.
- John Bytheway: 00:34:10 That reminds us of Isaiah, don't think, oh, it means this. Well, it probably means this and this, and it could be a dual or a multiple fulfillment. Don't limit it.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:34:23 Let's go to verse 5. "What do we understand by the foreign twenty elders spoken of by John?" I love this answer here because it's important as we consider who these elders are and try to think about it in our day and age. "We are to understand that these elders, whom John saw, were elders who had been faithful in the work of the ministry, and they were dead, that they had passed on, who belonged to the seven churches and

were then in the paradise of God". Now, we might say paradise. We would say the Spirit World, wouldn't we?

- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:34:58 They're in the Spirit World. Whether they're resurrected or not, we don't know, but at least in this vision, they're not. But they belonged to the seven churches. They were faithful individuals. These are the rank and file members of the kingdom of God who make the cogs and the wheels of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ago. When we get the directive from a living prophet, President Nelson, who asks us to, "Let Israel prevail" within us, and gather people on both sides of the veil, that's a commission to us. It's an admonition. It's a commandment.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:35:41 In order for that to happen, it has to be these rank and file members, these 24 people who make it happen, who make the ... When we talk about our temples, think about every temple, and think about all the shifts that happen in any temple on a given day when our temples are up and going. Think about that. These 24 faithful members, these 24 faithful elders, and we'll learn that they're high priests here in a minute, and these faithful people. But I think I love that because they passed onto the paradise of God, and they will [inaudible] the great resurrection if they come up with Christ or not. We'll see, but I love that verse. It just says a lot to me.
- Hank Smith: 00:36:30 So do I, because if you go back in the context of who John is writing to, these are people that are the receivers of this letter, they know these people. I see presidents, whoever, from the Philadelphia branch, and he's with God right now. That's a message of hope to the seven churches, these seven congregations that he's writing to. Maybe they were martyred and they're saying, he's with God now. I see him. I think that's a beautiful idea.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:37:06 Yeah. They very well could have been martyrs in their day. John, in his book, will talk about the altars of the martyrs and then the writers of D&C 135 talk about Joseph and Hyrum as martyrs, and then the martyrs that are found that John the Revelator talks about. Very well, these could be 24, there could be martyrs amongst them who gave their life for the Church in this difficult time under the Roman Empire. Let's jump onto verse 6. "What are we to understand by the book which John saw, which was sealed on the back with seven seals?"
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:37:53 He calls it a book. I've heard some people refer to it as a scroll, some scholars, but we can consider it as a book, and think of the ... That the book is sealed on the back with seven seals. The answer is, so the ... He's asking this as a question, we were to

understand that it contains the revealed will, the mysteries and the works of God, the hidden things of his economy concerning this earth during its 7,000 years of its continuance of its temporal existence. Okay. Wow, think about the expanse of what was just said there. The economic history of this earth. The mysteries of the works of God, when God is doing his work unseen by man, that will be revealed in this book, this great book. That will be revealed.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:38:59</u> | There are seven seals to it, and each of the seven seals represent approximately a thousand years. I have my good friend Bart Kowallis, who teaches Geology at BYU. One of the questions he's always asked is the age of the earth. How does that square with the Bible? Don't get sidetracked into all of that direction, but what we're talking about here, and what John has seen in this great vision is the biblical history of mankind that's revealed in this book and through these seven seals. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:39:38</u> | I like that. I think, when I teach my classes, and God has introduced in Revelation, Chapter 4, and then he has this book, it's almost as if, here's the Father presenting his plan of salvation, right? Here's his plan and he needs someone to open the book. He needs someone to open the book and play the role of Redeemer. There's this beautiful moment in John chapter 5, or sorry, Revelation 5, where John says, "There's nobody." And he says, "I wept much, there's nobody that great who can open the book or be the Savior." |
| Hank Smith: | <u>00:40:13</u> | And then this great moment, one of the elders said, "Weep not, behold, the lion of the tribe of Judah," and John looks, and he doesn't see a lion, he sees a lamb, and he comes up and he takes the book. That's a beautiful way of presenting the plan of salvation and the Savior accepting his role as the Redeemer of the world. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>00:40:36</u> | Yeah. The Jewish nation really ... You make me think of the Jews and they wanted a savior that was going to save them from the Romans, etc. That they wanted that lion, they wanted, instead, the Savior is depicted here as the lamb. A Lamb of God. The sacrificial lamb. The firstborn of the Father. The Firstborn of the Lamb. This is a beautiful symbolism. And John is taking that from all that he knows about his culture and history of being of Judah. I love what we're talking about here. I'm glad you brought that up in the fifth chapter there because that's powerful when it comes to the book. |

John Bytheway:	<u>00:41:25</u>	Can we go back a little bit? I think maybe our listeners would appreciate, we are not saying, in our theology, that the earth is 7,000 years old.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:41:37</u>	We are not.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:41:37</u>	That in the creation, they called ... One of the creation stories, they called it a day. It doesn't mean it was a twenty-four hour period, but they called it a day, the work that they did. I appreciate that, and I thought, maybe if you don't mind, there's a verse that when I have students to bring that up, I love to read in Section 101, when in verse 32, it says, "Yay, verily, I say unto you, on that day, when the Lord shall come, he shall reveal all things." And then listen to verse 33, "Things which have passed," now imagine what you can put under that heading, archeology, anthropology, astronomy, "hidden things which no man knew, things of the earth by which it was made and the purpose and the end there of."
John Bytheway:	<u>00:42:23</u>	He's going to tell us everything. He hasn't told us that now, but one day he'll tell us all that stuff about the earth that we don't know. I don't know if that was a good addition to make right there. I just wanted people to know. No, we're not saying the earth is only 7,000 years old.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:42:39</u>	I like that John, because that's not the purpose of the Bible, it is not the purpose of scripture. They're not trying to tell us about the age of the earth. They're trying to teach us about God. If we get lost in something that's, it's not the purpose of, I think it was Elder Talmage who said, don't try to find things in the Bible that were never even meant to be there at all. Look at it the way it was meant to be read. It's a story about God, not about geology.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:43:09</u>	I just think this is a really important discussion. I've been a Gospel Doctrine teacher before in my world, and it's just really easy to get a side trip down this road. The moment that happens, I feel the Spirit just walk out of the room and it's like, "What can I do to regather the Spirit here when I start?" ... The speculation that starts to happen when it comes to the seven seals.
Hank Smith:	<u>00:43:37</u>	There's a great book written by Henry Eyring, Sr. called the ... I think it's called <i>Reflections of a Scientist</i> . He said he and Joseph Fielding Smith got into a heated discussion about the age of the earth. Joseph Fielding Smith said, "Oh, Henry, I'll talk about this when you're less emotional." Then, Henry Eyring Sr. says, "Is he a prophet? Absolutely, he's a prophet. I believe he's a prophet, seer, and Revelator. I just happen to disagree with him on the

age of the earth." It was such a healthy way of looking at this like, let's not get sidetracked on this issue. Let's keep our focus on the Lamb and the Father.

- John Bytheway: 00:44:27 That's why I like those verses in 101. It's kind of like, I'm going to tell you all of this in that day, but in the meantime, faith in Christ, repentance, and endure to the end. I'll tell you all that one day, but that's not the point.
- Hank Smith: 00:44:44 I think you're right, Craig. The moment we get there, I think the Holy Ghost says, nah, that's not the point. Yeah, that's not the point.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:44:54 I know our time, we probably can't cover all the verses that are here in Section 77, but I know that there needs to be a few things said about the 144,000 and the small book and the two witnesses. Let's hit those three topics here. Let's go over to verse 11, the 11th question. "What are we to understand by the sealing of the 144,000 out of all the tribes of Israel, 12,000 out of every tribe?" By the way, in that last submission, the 12,000 out of every tribe, everybody can do the math, 12 times 12, 144, or 144, 12,000 out of each tribe. Now, let's listen to the answer. We are to understand that those who are sealed, and this means sealed up to eternal life, their names written in the book of the Lamb of God.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:46:01 That's what that would mean. "Are high priests ordained into the holy order of God." Now let's just stop there for a moment. Let's not leave the sisters out of this. If you're going to be sealed up and your name's in the book of the lamb of God, and then that is a ... Your wife is going to be part of that sealing. You can't have that without her, because this is a ... We have a Mother in Heaven, we have a God in heaven, and if you're going to go on to exaltation, you're not going to do this alone. While it just mentions high priests, right next to the high priest, is the wife of the high priest. If he's being sealed up, that means she's there too. We don't want to lose that.
- Hank Smith: 00:46:51 Craig, that's not something that Joseph Smith understands quite yet. That's not going to come until what? Section 137. This is going to be something he'll understand later, that in order to be one of these sealed up, you must enter into ... Where are we?
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:47:12 The new and everlasting covenant of marriage.
- Hank Smith: 00:47:12 New and everlasting covenant. Yeah.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:47:15</u>	Right. Yeah. You can see how this great revelation percolates with Joseph Smith for a good long time. You find it coming out now in D&C 132 and 137 and other places and it's really important. That's why I really like these verses here, and it's a really important key to understanding. One of the keys to understanding Revelation is knowing the doctrines of the plan of salvation. Know what that means. You tell me, what is this talking about, ordained onto the Holy Order of God, what's that?
John Bytheway:	<u>00:47:57</u>	Melchizedek Priesthood.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:47:58</u>	You got it. So, there, Section 84 of the Doctrine and Covenants, the holy order, and that's why they're high priests, and what is their administrative role? "To administer the everlasting gospel, for they are they who are ordained out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people by the angels to whom it is given power over the nations of the earth." That's the four angels that are on the four corners of the earth who are assisting missionary labors in our dispensation of the Restoration, to help us to get into countries to preach the gospel. Is those unseen angels who are assisting and helping so that these high priests can come into a country and administer salvation to its inhabitants.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:49:01</u>	That's what's going on here, because it says every nation, kindred, tongue and people, by the angels to whom is given power over the all nations to bring as many as will come, agencies involved, to the Church of the Firstborn. The Church of the Firstborn is Jesus as the firstborn. It is those who have been sealed up to eternal life. Those who've come to know, and that's the purpose of our endowment today. It is to come to see God face to face, to see the Second Comforter who is Christ himself, and to seal us up into eternal life, and that we can live in exaltation in a celestial orb.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:49:44</u>	The priesthood is necessary. The restoration of priesthood for salvation and exaltation and ordinances, and needs to ... That's when President Nelson says that we need to gather on both sides of the veil. This needs to be ... That's why we're going into every nation that we can possibly go through the front door. The brother and the Quorum of the Twelve and the First Presidency want us to go through the front door to do our missionary work and that we can bring ... Eventually, the goal is to set up a temple in every land, every nation to meet the needs of the people so that he can have exaltation.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:50:26</u>	It's a gathering of Israel type of a verse, and it's to find those who will let God prevail. It's a purpose of the priesthood-type of

verse. I always love it when it says, every nation, kindred, tongue and people, the care that God has for everyone.

- Hank Smith: 00:50:44 As a teacher, I would focus less on the number 144,000, and more on the every tribe that John is living in the day of the scattering, and he's telling his people, I see every tribe in the future coming to God, right? This is Revelation seven. I see every tribe, Zebulun, Benjamin, Simeon, Manassah, Judah, they're all here.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:51:08 He mentions all of them.
- Hank Smith: 00:51:09 Yeah. They're all there. This has got to be, to me, the future gathering. I'm glad you said that, John, that he's saying, what do we understand by these 144,000? John's saying, it's the gathering, we're all back together. That's got to be an exciting moment for John as the writer, and those who are reading this letter originally, that's got to be exciting for them as well, a future gathering. We know Nephi was excited about the future gathering. Isaiah was excited about the future gathering. This seems to be an addition there.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:51:38 Yeah, and your point about not getting caught up in the number of 144,000, I know that there's a Christian denomination out there that says there will only be 144,000 saved in the kingdom of God. That's just not the plan of salvation, is it? God loves all of his children. Everybody will have agency to have an opportunity to be exalted and to accept or reject the gospel. It's not a limited capacity. That's why I love this, and the priesthood is essential in the process. There is a pathway back to God, and so I love this.
- John Bytheway: 00:52:17 When we think of a seal, it's interesting that the different ways this is being used, the Book of Mormon being a sealed portion, it's not ... This kind of a seal, are we thinking like a wax seal that holds the revelation closed, and then also that people are sealed? Yeah, we have sealed the servants of God in our foreheads in verse 9, but I like how often that word is used and it. The plates that were sealed were closed, but when we're sealed, that's a different type of being sealed. Then there's the seals at SeaWorld, and that's a different type of seal.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:52:57 But you bring up a good point again, it's the same thing with this topic right here, the sealing of the three numbers on the forehead in the Book of Revelation there that you're referring to. There's lots of speculation out there on that, and the same thing happens in a Gospel Doctrine class, as soon as we get speculating what that means and how those numbers can be

interpreted. I really have to be careful there. But in this case, the word is sealed, sealed up to eternal life.

- Hank Smith: 00:53:33 Craig, in my class, I've said, "Listen, in John's day, human beings could be sealed on their forehead, like branded, who owns you." The Book of Revelation seems to have two owners. You can either choose the Adversary as your owner, the mark of the beast, right? The adversary as your owner, or you can choose the Father as your owner. Those are your two choices, very similar to Nephi saying, "There are two churches, save only." There's Satan and his side and there's God and His side. You have to make a decision on whose side you're on.
- Hank Smith: 00:54:08 But yeah, you're right, getting caught up in what the seal says and what the number means is, again, I think you're out in left field and you're far away from where the Lord wants us to be here focusing on him, the Lamb and the gathering of Israel.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:54:25 Let's go to the last two questions in the revelation. We're in verse 14 right now. "What are we to understand by the little book which was eaten by John, as mentioned in the tenth chapter of Revelation? Answer, we're to understand that it was a mission, an ordinance for him to gather the tribes of Israel. Behold, this is Elias, who, as it is written, must come and restore all things." Joseph Smith, Bruce R. McConkie has talked about this, that the book, the little book was, what was it? It was what? It was eaten.
- Hank Smith: 00:55:08 Yeah, and it's an assignment. Right?
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:55:11 Okay. Let's first deal with the fact that it was eaten. A book that was eaten ... Give a book to somebody and tell them to eat this book, they'll think you're crazy. But what this is symbolic in here, think of the word, think of the words in the scriptures that equate to what is being said here, feast upon what? The little book. Feast upon the word of God. Now, what is the little book? The little book is the real history of the world. Now, we hear the word today thrown around, fake history or fake ...
- John Bytheway: 00:55:54 Fake news.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:55:56 That. There is a book that has the real history of what happened in these seven seals, and we're required to feast upon that book. What we're required too. Then the book is the history of mankind, both our religious history and our secular history. If you want to know religious history, you've got to know something about European history or Middle Eastern history. If

you want to understand what's going on religiously in the Bible, culture, and history, if you'll study that, we need to feast upon it. If we do that, we'll understand the great gathering of the tribes in the latter days, and how that will all come together, and that all things will be restored.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:56:47

So, it's just like, the more you know before you go, the more you'll share while you're there. The more you know about our history, let's say Middle Eastern history ... If you go to Jerusalem and you have never studied Middle Eastern history, of the number of times the city of Jerusalem has been conquered and by who, if you don't have a grasp of that, then you're a blank slate just trying to understand this culture that you see in front of you. But if you do understand the history, it's magnificent in the tapestry of what's going on in the city of Jerusalem in modern day today. When it comes to understanding our history, we'll understand that the concept of an Elias of a restore of truth has been going on in our history.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:57:37

Whether it was the Dark Ages or through the Great Apostasy and the Enlightenment area that brought about the great revivals of the Restoration, and that there have been Eliases out there. I would say Martin Luther and the great Reformers as an Elias, a mortal Elias, who is trained to bring about, and if we understand and study the life of these great Reformers, and that helps us to understand why the need for a restoration, because there was a Great Apostasy. If we don't understand there's an apostasy, there is no need for a Restoration, and there's no need for a Book Mormon, and there's no need for a priesthood, a Peter, James, and John, and John the Baptist, and Moses and Elias and Elijah appearing, and D&C went to ...

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 00:58:26

If we don't understand our history of who we are as Latter-day Saints, how can we understand the gathering? How can we do what President Nelson asked us? How can we allow God to prevail in our life if we don't understand our history? That's what he's saying. We need to feast. We all need to eat the book.

Hank Smith: 00:58:49

Feast upon the word. This is one of those moments, by the way, where I tell my students, this would not be odd for John's audience, him eating a little book. He's borrowing this idea from Ezekiel, Chapter 3, where the prophet eats a book and then he can speak the words. I think you're right on here, where anybody who wants to serve a mission or go out and teach, they must first, what did the Lord tell Hyrum Smith? You must first, before you can declare my word, you have to obtain my word. You have to feast upon the word before you can speak.

John Bytheway:	<u>00:59:22</u>	Or treasure it up, another phrase. I think like Section 88 coming up talks about exactly what Craig is saying right now, study the wars, the perplexities of nations. It's kind of like, get a big picture and you will see the restoration and the big picture. I love what you said there Craig, because I love to tell my students, the President Benson thing. If you don't understand the Fall, then you won't understand the Atonement. If you don't understand the Apostasy, you won't understand why there needs to be a Restoration at all. All of this says the big picture. I like the image of eating the book. I'm going to consume this. I am going to learn everything about this. I'm going to make it part of me.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:00:08</u>	Our last verse here is verse 15, "What is to be understood by the two witnesses in the 11th chapter of the Book of Revelation?"
Hank Smith:	<u>01:00:18</u>	Oh, here's the Gospel Doctrine class is going to take off now, right? Out in the left field.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:00:26</u>	They are two prophets that are to be raised up in the Jewish nation. That's Israel. If there's a Jewish nation, it's Israel today. It's in 1917 when it was declared that they could form a government and an army, and prepare for their own nation to emerge. There are two prophets that will be raised up in the Jewish nation, so we'll say Israel. We'll define that as Israel today, the borders of the country of Israel in the last days, because it is the last days. It's the sixth and seventh seal that we're talking about here.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:01:10</u>	At the time of the Restoration and to prophesy to the Jews after they are gathered, and so there is a physical literal gathering of the Jews in Israel today. Nobody can refute that. Spiritually, they haven't gathered to the gospel, but they're there physically in culture. They're there, and with all the religion, they are there. They have a government. They are there for a purpose in their mind, and they're looking for the first coming of the savior. But these two prophets, the two prophets, it doesn't say they're Jewish prophets. It doesn't say they're coming out of Judah, but there are two prophets that will be raised up.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:01:59</u>	That words "raised up" are interesting if you consider that for a moment. Then the last part of it, to prophesy to the Jews after they are gathered and have built the city of Jerusalem in the land of their fathers. Now, of course, let's talk about the context of the 11th chapter of this Book of Revelation. What is going on here? What do we know about this? This is the great battle of Armageddon. This is a three and a half year war that will be going on. This is a war that will take seven years to bury the

dead. And there will be these two prophets or witnesses that are there to associate with this great battle of Armageddon, and eventually, and I'm now going into other revelations that we have in teachings, that they will be backed up to the Mount of Olives.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 01:03:01

This is a great time. We also know from the Revelation itself there, in this 11th chapter, that these two prophets, their lives will be taken. And for three and a half days, their bodies will lie within the streets, and then, at the Second Coming, when the Mount of Olives splits in twain, and the Savior comes through to fight the battle, or the Jews, and to save that nation from annihilation, and then the two prophets, these two witnesses will be raised up. Resurrected would be the word. We ask, who are these two witnesses? And who are they? Well, we don't know.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 01:03:45

That's where speculation unfortunately has taken over some study groups in the Church. Do they come from the Quorum of the Twelve or the First Presidency? No, we have no direction on that. I wouldn't dare to say anything, not even close to putting the Brethren in that kind of situation with this prophecy right here.

Hank Smith: 01:04:12

Yeah. This is another place where John is borrowing from the Old Testament from Zechariah, Chapter 4, these two anointed ones. You go back to our original discussion between symbolic and literal, and if we lean way too far literal, that's where I think we start to kind of go off the rails and start saying ...

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 01:04:33

We do.

Hank Smith: 01:04:33

Yeah, I think it's going to be these two people, right? I don't think that was the intention. It looks to me like the intention here is that, when they die, it will seem like we've lost, but here comes the savior to raise them back up, and he will win. It seems to me that the purpose of Revelation 11 is to show the power of the Lamb to bring people to life. Right at the end of the book, or right at the end of the chapter, the angel says, "The kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ, and shall reign forever and ever." To me, that's the point.

John Bytheway: 01:05:16

That's a good way to ... I think we ought to, the whole section here, what is a great way to look at that? And that is [inaudible] and that music came to my mind, because those are the lyrics of the Hallelujah Chorus. The kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our God, and of his Christ. He shall reign

forever and ever, and we sing. That's a great way to ... Instead of getting too concerned about the little symbols, what's happening here, the history of the world has already been written, and Christ is the victor and he will save and gather. What else would you add to that?

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>01:05:54</u> | I would like to say that, as we look at some of the book of this great revelation that John sees, I think that it behooves us as Latter-day Saints to do all that we can to become familiar with these teachings, but what's important for us as a Latter-day Saint today is to be true to our covenants, be active in the kingdom of God, be moving forward in a progressive way to do all that we can to bring about these events in the latter days. They're going to happen, with or without us. We want them to happen with us. We want to be contributors. We need to follow the direction of our prophet, seer, and revelator. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>01:06:41</u> | We never want to be ahead of the prophet. We want to listen to him, what he's going to ask us to do, and he's asked us some very important things to do recently in the Church. That's what we need to do. That should be our watch. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>01:06:56</u> | Yeah. I don't think one of those things is speculating about the Book of Revelation in Gospel Doctrine. I don't think he's asked us to do that. Does he [crosstalk 01:07:04] remember? |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>01:07:03</u> | Yeah, we need to be careful there. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>01:07:07</u> | I was wondering too, a Church History question, were the missionaries out teaching the Book of Revelation or were they teaching more about the Restoration and the Prophet Joseph Smith? |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>01:07:19</u> | I think that's a great question. I think our missionaries were very Bible driven as much as anything. Most of them didn't have the revelations available to them. Some of them copied them down and were carrying with them until they did get the book, the 1835 edition of the Doctrine and Covenants, but most of them are the biblical sense. We didn't have enough knowledge, this 1832, and we didn't have enough knowledge going around about these kinds of things yet for missionaries to be taking. It is faith, repentance, the doctrine of Christ is what's bringing them into the Church. The Book of Mormon, it is a biblical presentation along with that there's been an Apostasy and a Restoration. |

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:08:13</u>	Here's a Book of Mormon now, the fruits of this, and then there's a church that's organized that has authority and power and ordinances to bring us back to God. Again, these are keys to fight, these are 15 keys to help us understand the Book of Revelation when you study it as a member of the Church.
John Bytheway:	<u>01:08:38</u>	I love what the <i>Come, Follow Me</i> manual only has really one comment on Section 77. It just says, "Ponder how," there's a paragraph, but after that, it says, "Ponder how you can follow the Prophet Joseph's example when you study the scriptures. You might ask Heavenly Father, what am I to understand?" I love it, because that phrase is over and over in here. What are we to understand about this? Well, we can go to our Heavenly Father and say, "What am I to understand as we study our scriptures?"
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:09:08</u>	Well, I think that's the application part that you're bringing in here now, and for us as Latter-day Saints, where do we need to be, and how can we be better saints in the kingdom of God? How can the Book of Revelations help us to do that? I think it can be a godsend to every member of the Church if they'll spend the time to get to know John the Revelator and his great revelation.
John Bytheway:	<u>01:09:33</u>	Please join us for Part II of this podcast.

EPISODE 29 • PART II



Dr. Craig K. Manscill

D&C 77-80

John Bytheway:	<u>00:03</u>	Welcome to part two of this week's podcast.
John Bytheway:	<u>00:06</u>	Now, let's move on to Section 78, and this is again in Kirtland, Ohio. And this has some interesting stuff in it about a firm, United Firm Consecration, all this. Can you give us some background on what's going on here, and then we'll jump in?
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:22</u>	All right. Well, even today as I read some of the commentaries and there seems to be a confusion that exists and a lot of it has to do with terminology, whether it's 'law of consecration,' 'United Order,' 'Enoch's order,' 'United Firm,' 'the Literary Firm,' also comes in play here.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>00:47</u>	So, let's see if we can sort some of the terminology out. Let's see if we can figure out what's going on here. And I think that we can come away with an understanding here of why this particular Section. So, historically this is a revelation that's given in Hiram, Ohio. And by the way, you can see--look at the date, it's March. So, this revelation is prior to a very catastrophic event that will happen to Joseph and Sidney on, what, the 25th of March. You remember what that was?
Hank Smith:	<u>01:21</u>	Yeah.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:21</u>	The tar and feathering of them. So, this revelation is prior to that because it's still Hiram, Ohio. The tar and feathering will put Joseph's life at risk, and he will now leave Hiram and go down to this second mission to Missouri to talk to the Saints down there about organizing what's called 'The United Order.'
Hank Smith:	<u>01:43</u>	Oh, so, you can see that between Sections 81 and 82. Hiram, Ohio in 81, Jackson County, Missouri in 82. So, he makes that move right there.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>01:53</u>	When the Saints were called to gather the Ohio in Sections 37 and 38, they were promised they would receive the law of the

Lord. And when they arrived there, the Lord kept His promise and gave us Section 42. In Section 42, the beginning of the principles of consecration were introduced. And Bishop Partridge was called as a bishop to administer consecration.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 02:20

So, the Lord knew Edward Partridge's heart. He knew who he was, knew He needed him. And He raised him up for the important purpose of becoming the first bishop of the church and administering principles of consecration and an order, if you want to say that, of how that would function.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 02:43

So, consecration was a set of principles. Now, what we're talking about here is how do you take care of the temporal church? And consecration is about taking care of the poor which is a responsibility of the children of God. So, in Section 42, the law of consecration is beginning to develop. The church has three temporal needs. We need to buy land, build buildings on the land, and to publish the word of God. Publish that word of God whether it be the *Book of Commandments*, the *Doctrine and Covenants*, the *Book of Mormon*, children's literature.

Hank Smith: 03:31

And the hymns. Even the hymns, right?

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 03:33

The hymns of the church, yes, Section 25. We have a need. If we're going to get salvation into the hearts of the people, they need to read it. They need to feast upon this word, and the great revelations in the D&C, they need... And so that's a temporal need--there needs to be a publishing arm of the church. There needs to be a building committee for the Kirtland Temple. There needs to be an agent who purchases land in Zion like Bishop Partridge was doing down there.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 04:06

And somebody has to physically meet those needs. And the commerce, the economics of that is this temporal nature that has to be taken care of. So, unfortunately, up until this time, the law of consecration, the Lord had established and called for a storehouse to be built. It's now March of 1832, and there's no bishop storehouse. It hasn't been organized. The principles of consecration have simply...what? They've been taught, but they haven't been enacted.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 04:45

You do have the Missouri Church set up at this time, right? Those were Sections 57, 58. Bishop Partridge was called to go down there and live. They were to live the law of consecration down there, and they began that. Okay. Great. But the Gilbert's store hadn't been set up down there and neither had the Whitney store been set up at this time in the Kirtland area with the second bishop of the church.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>05:13</u>	So, the second bishop is Newel K. Whitney in the Kirtland area. And the first bishop of the church is Bishop Partridge, Edward Partridge, down in Jackson County, Missouri. So, how do we finance then setting up a spacious storehouse? That's a building or we're going to have to somehow use some building or structure for a storehouse, or we're going to need some land for that, or we're going to need to publish something. So, how do we do that? The answer is Section 78. That's what's going on here, is how are we going to get the ball rolling. We need to have money.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>05:54</u>	Okay. What I asked my students at BYU with this Section, I said, "How many of your families are entrepreneurs, and you own businesses?" And several hands go up. And tell me about what your father does or what do they do? And all kinds of things will come up. You can imagine that.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>06:15</u>	Now, I would say to them, "If you would have lived in Joseph Smith's day at this time in Section 78, you would have been asked to consecrate your business to the church into an organization what was called the United Order. And the funds you've now just given up, you'll still take care of your business. But now, you've given it over to consecration, and you can live off some of the proceeds. But the lion's share of dollars are going to go for the kingdom of God. Can you do it?"
John Bytheway:	<u>06:54</u>	So, the law of consecration and the United Order are two different things.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>06:58</u>	They really are. Yes, they are. Law of consecration is what Bishop Partridge is working with down there in Jackson County, Missouri where you bring all your goods to the bishop, and you turn it over to him. And then, he turns back to you what your wants and your needs are. This is different. It's an organization. It's a business organization with a co-op of businesses brought together. And then, you live off some of the proceeds, and it goes into this corporate front.
Hank Smith:	<u>07:34</u>	I was going to say the principles of consecration remain long after we leave Missouri.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>07:39</u>	You're right.
Hank Smith:	<u>07:40</u>	Right?
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>07:41</u>	So, the principles of consecration which some are talked about in this revelation are eternal. And they're in the church still

today. You'll hear, "Oh, we ended the law of consecration in 1834 because of what happened in Jackson County, Missouri." Well, we ended that practice, but the principles still were eternal. Well, then what comes along? Tithing in D&C Section 119, in the Far West period.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>08:14</u> | 1836, we organized what's called the welfare program. But the thing is programs will change from the earliest days of the church of how to fund are the three things that I talked about, buying land, building buildings, and printing, buying printing presses. All of that will change, but that's the purpose of why we need to get land to build a temple in Kirtland, Ohio, et cetera. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>08:43</u> | And the same idea of caring for the poor. That will remain. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>08:49</u> | Always. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>08:51</u> | Even though the programs change. It will always- |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>08:52</u> | The programs will change over time, and they'll add to and take away. But the concept of a bishop storehouse has always existed. There still exists the bishop storehouse and the eternal principles. And that's what leads us into Section 78. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>09:11</u> | I know that in the past, I think President Reagan had visited welfare square downtown and saw that whole thing happening, and it's a really positive thing when we brought presidents of the United States over to Welfare Square to see how we take care of our poor and needy in the church. It is impressive. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>09:37</u> | And we'll hit a verse on that in just a moment, John, that I think it will be very meaningful. I wanted to read to you all the members who actually were part of it because we'll add some of them in other revelations as you'll cover later on. There's Sidney Rigdon... I mean Joseph Smith, Sidney Rigdon, Newel K. Whitney, and they're up in the Kirtland area. And there's Edward Partridge. These are the ones in Missouri, Edward Partridge, Sidney Gilbert, John Whitmer, Oliver Cowdery, W. W. Phelps, and Martin Harris. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>10:08</u> | Now, the latter group there, these individuals were over the literary firm of the church or the printing arm of the church. And so, Oliver Cowdery, because of his work on the Book of Mormon publication and W. W. Phelps, remember he was a printer himself out of Canandaigua, New York, and these people were doing the printing part of it. But when you have Newel K. |

Whitney and John Gilbert, they're helping out with the bishop storehouses and as the bishops of the church.

- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 10:42 Later on, they'll add Frederick G. Williams who is a landowner. And so, Joseph says, "We're going to need land," so, land to build the Kirtland Temple. So, by the way, the building of the Kirtland Temple was Plan B for the Savior. Plan A was to build a temple in Jackson County, Missouri. Moses, Elias and Elijah should have appeared there. But Section 101 teaches us that they failed. They failed in turning over a shovel and building the foundation and getting that temple up and going. And there's a whole parable about that in 101. And you're going to love that when you get to that.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 11:28 But Plan B, and that's why Joseph always stayed in Kirtland. Do you ever wonder why Joseph doesn't go down and live in Missouri? That's Zion. That's designated Zion, the New Jerusalem. Why isn't the prophet down there? The Lord said, "I want you back up in Kirtland," because the Lord knew what was going to happen in the long run. Plan B needed to be in place. If they fail in Missouri, and they did, then, Kirtland becomes plan B. And that's why Frederick G. Williams is called into the United Firm, and that's really the term we would like to use as United Firm first as much as United Order. All right.
- Hank Smith: 12:19 I liked what you said there, Craig, because Joseph Smith never lives in Jackson County. He lives in Missouri. But he lives in Far West which isn't in Jackson County. He never gets to live. He visits, right, a number of times but never lived-
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 12:33 Yes, as many as four visits down there. Yeah, before he goes down to live in 1838. So, yeah. It's a big deal, and it was a sore spot for the Missouri Saints all along, like, the prophet of the Lord should be down here. We need your leadership.
- Hank Smith: 12:52 Doctrine and Covenant 78:3-4: "For verily I say unto you, the time has come, and is now at hand; and behold, and lo, it must needs be that there be an organization of my people, in regulating and establishing the affairs of the storehouse for the poor of my people, both in this place and in the land of Zion— For a permanent and everlasting establishment and order unto my church, to advance the cause, which ye have espoused, to the salvation of man, and to the glory of your Father who is in heaven."
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 13:24 There you have it. This is the organization of what's called the order or the United Firm. And it "must needs be" organized. In other words, if we don't do this, we're not going to be able to

progress with, what? Temporal salvation leads to eternal salvation, spiritual salvation. You can't advance the cause unless you have... I know you can meet outside under the heavens. But you need a building overhead sooner or later for the kingdom to meet.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 13:56

I mean we have the conference center. We have our temples. We have everything. So, in order for salvation to progress in a temple, we need to buy the land and build the temple. And it "must needs be." And I really like that, it must happen, this organization. We've got to get this going. So, I love the way the Lord used Martin Harris in the early days of the church who eventually gave every penny he had for the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and the publishing of the Book of Mormon. There's so much that he did until he had no more to give. But he's included in this organization so that he can have some means to live from day to day and to contribute on the printing of things.

Hank Smith: 14:48

Craig, there are some today who might say, "Well, you don't need religion. You can just be spiritual." This is the Lord saying if we want to do an eternal work, we're going to need some temporal things in place. You're not going to get exalted children through, "Okay, everyone, just be spiritual."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 15:08

So, we need to take care of our poor through a bishop storehouse with commodities to help them with both clothing and food and whatever they need for a permanent and everlasting establishment to advance the cause. What is the cause? "You have espoused to the salvation of man." So, the cause is to bring about salvation and exaltation as a result of this order that's being organized.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 15:38

And so, those are important verses that's talking about the organization. Unfortunately, this will only last two years, by the way. The organization will last from March of 1832 to 1834. In D&C 104, it'll be disorganized largely because of what happened down in Jackson County, Missouri. When that all fell apart in 1834, we lost our bishop storehouse, the temple site, our land. Everything was taken from us. Even though we tried to get it back through legal means, it never came back to us. The church was now in financial straits and difficulties.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 16:21

Here we go in verses 5 and 6 are now principles that both the United Order, this co-op organization of businesses that have been brought together to benefit the church so you can obtain heavenly things unless you have earthly things supporting you. "For if ye are not equal in earthly things ye cannot be equal in

obtaining heavenly things; For if you will that I give unto you a place in the celestial world, you must prepare yourselves by doing the things which I have commanded you and required of you." What's been commanded? To build a temple in Jackson County, Missouri.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 17:05

And to do that, you've got to purchase land. Okay. What else has been commanded? To publish my word, to bring forth the Book of Mormon, to bring forth the Doctrine and Covenants. This is 1832. And they're trying to get the Book of Commandments off the ground here in 1831. By 1832 it's sitting down there with the publishing group in Jackson County, Missouri. You remember the publishers? You remember the Book of Commandments is on the press at the time that the mobs come in.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 17:36

So, the Book of Commandments is there. They're just taking a long time to get it published, and that's because of the press situation and paper shortage, and things that are going on in Jackson County, Missouri. So, the Lord is saying, "I've commanded you to do things. Therefore, this is the purpose of the organization." John, could you read verse 8, please?

John Bytheway: 18:01

"And now, verily thus saith the Lord, it is expedient that all things be done unto my glory, by you who are joined together in this order."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 18:11

So, what jumps out to me on that verse is all things are done unto my glory. Temporal salvation is also the spiritual salvation of this church, and it's essential. If we're going to get the church out of debt finally during Joseph Smith's administration, we've got to have a system economically to fund the needs of the church. And, of course, tithing is really going to be a big thing in D&C 119 in the Far West period.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 18:46

So, the Lord has his plan. And Joseph Smith learned that in D&C 111, didn't he? Joseph Smith decided, "I can figure out how to pay the debts of the church with that buried treasure in Salem, Massachusetts," And Lord, remember what the Lord counseled Joseph? Don't be worried about your, what? Your debts. Sooner or later, I'm going to bring about tithing. And sooner or later, we'll get all of our debts paid, and we paid every dime and interest more.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 19:20

By the way, during Gordon B. Hinckley's administration, we went back to the restoration period and every dollar that we borrowed to put commodities in the bishop storehouse in Kirtland, Missouri, we were indebted to merchants in Buffalo,

and in New York. Gordon B. Hinckley found the descendants of those people and paid them, and paid them interest.

John Bytheway: 19:47

No kidding. Wow.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 19:50

No kidding. And now, that they're organizing this, they're deciding how is it that they're going to legally do this and who's going to administer them. So, Sidney Rigdon has a tannery, and he's donating that business to the church. And so, and otherwise, "Otherwise Satan seeketh to turn their hearts away from the truth, that they become blinded and understand not the things which are prepared for them." And so, you need to be careful.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 20:21

When it comes to temporal things, we're easily blinded by money. Temporal things blind us. And it was a great sacrifice to give up these businesses. Could you imagine your wife when you went home with your Bishop Partridge and said, "Not only are we going to give up our business to the church? We've been asked to leave our lovely home and go to Jackson County, Missouri."

Hank Smith: 20:50

Craig, that is just so crucial to understand here. The moment we mention money, there seems to be a different feel from people. We're like, "Spirituality, I love it. I love the Book of Mormon. I love the spirit." Now, let's talk about giving money. I think you're exactly right. Money can blind us.

Hank Smith: 21:13

And the Lord says over and over. What does he say in Section 121? "Why are they not chosen? Because their hearts are on the things of this world." Why do you think that is? Why do we-

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 21:26

I think it's a great question. Where your treasure is, so is your heart. And if your treasure is your money and your bank account, well, okay.

Hank Smith: 21:40

That's where your heart is.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 21:41

You're going to live a different life versus a person of consecration. And I think Martin Harris is a great example of that. And we're going to get to one named John Tanner here in a minute. But, yeah. Look at verse 14, helps us with your answer. "That through my providence, notwithstanding the tribulation which shall descend upon you, that the church may stand independent above all other creatures beneath the celestial world."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>22:25</u>	To me, that means government, to stand independent of government welfare systems that we as Latter-day Saints take care of our own which brought about the humanitarian aid department of the church where we collect goods and services and prepare to help in disasters around the world and in whatever way that we can help countries that are crippled from disease or need shots or whatever that were all the places we're into and I think you just said it. What is our consecration sheet today? It's our tithe.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>23:06</u>	When we fill out that tithing form, what else is on it? Not just fast offerings and tithing. There's missionary work. There's all the ways that we can give and consecrate our monies to the church, not if we don't have the money, then we have our talents. We have our time, and that's what we commit to consecrate to God. And that's why that's consecration is an everlasting principle. Consecration humbles us. And we become meek and when we could become teachable.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>23:39</u>	The greatest teacher, Moses was known as the meekest man alive with the children of Israel. And he was teachable for God. He was a clean slate to work with as was Joseph Smith. We need to be like that. We need to be teachable, meek, and humble that we can give under consecration this way.
Hank Smith:	<u>23:58</u>	John is more teachable and humble, and generous, and giving than me. I want to be more like him because I think, Craig, Section 78 makes me, and hopefully there's a couple others out there, go, "Okay. Okay," because whose kingdom are you trying to build? Is it yours or is it God's? Because it's really hard to build both. But oh, I don't know why. I'm really happy that the Lord is going to say at the end of this. "I'll lead you along. I'll help you."
John Bytheway:	<u>24:33</u>	Yeah. I think what you were all talking about fast offerings, tithing and all this, and then our time and our talents, I just want to restate what we stated before. All of those things are in the bishop storehouse today, and a bishop can call upon people's talents and their gifts and not only their money, but their other things that they can do to help, what's the phrase, advance the cause.
Hank Smith:	<u>24:56</u>	Oh, Craig, you're killing me here.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>24:58</u>	Yeah. I love this here. And go to verse 17. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, ye are little children, and ye have not as yet understood how great blessings the Father hath in his own hands and prepared for you." In other words, you're like little

children. We're just trying to build consecration principles amongst you. But why can we do that today, is because this church, rank and file members, do obey the law of consecration. They do give them their funds. And without that, the church wouldn't be where it is today. The cause of Zion would not be pushed along as we are.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 25:43

Everything that consecration is about, the church is still actively engaged in. We have a building system. We have a temple system. We have all the things, the temple department. Everything is in place that the temporal part of the church can bring about salvation for mankind. And he says, "You don't know now. You're just little children." But let me show you where we're at in the year 2021.

Hank Smith: 26:09

Yeah. I remember the story of the Widow's Mite where the widow puts what she has, all she can give into the treasury. And the savior says, "She's given more than everybody else," and it's because she's consecrated. It's not the amount. It's where your heart is.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 26:28

And the things you're expressing right now that I've heard both of you just say, you just expressed what the Lord said in verses 18 and 19. You just expressed what the Lord said in verses 18 and 19: "And ye cannot bear all things now; nevertheless, be of good cheer, for I will lead you along. The kingdom is yours and the blessings thereof are yours, and the riches of eternity are yours. And he who receiveth all things with thankfulness--" I just heard you say that, John. Thankfulness shall be made glorious-- "and the things of this earth shall be added unto him, even an hundred fold, yea, more."

John Bytheway: 27:07

And I just thought what a Zion idea President Hinckley had with that perpetual education fund. We've got all this. Let's help our brothers and sisters go to college so that they can be prepared in temporal things, so that they can have the riches of eternity as well. And I read these stories, and they're just amazing. And I think what a great Zion idea. It's in the Philippines. It's in Mexico. I don't even know how many countries it's in now. But maybe, you know better than I do, Craig and Hank. But I think it's self-sustaining now. It's not on the tiding form anymore. But the perpetual education fund, what a Zion idea that was of President Hinckley.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 27:49

Just this last week, I had a student knock on my door. He was going through the hallway knocking on doors. And my door was the third door he knocked on. And I was there. And I said, "Hello. Come on in. Can I help you?" And he was a from Bolivia,

and he had some questions about the gospel. And we had a discussion. And I said, "What are you doing here?" Where are you from?" And he says, "I'm here. I served a mission. I was from Bolivia." And I says, "Wow. What a privilege it is to have you here at our university. You've come all the way from Bolivia. And tell me about your circumstances." And he just teared up, and he told me how poor the family was.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>28:30</u> | And he said, "The fact that I'm here is an absolute miracle." And he's getting a good education, and he's going to go back to Bolivia. And I'm telling you, the perpetual education fund was a blessing in his life. And he'll be a leader of the church one day back there. And yeah. This is what we're talking about, and this is the outcome. And God could see it all in the end. And these principles are eternal, and they're celestial, and they help us to become who we need to become as a church that we can identify our poor and take care of them. So, I love this revelation. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>29:09</u> | Craig, you mentioned John Tanner. We've talked about the Partridges, Edward and Lydia. We've talked about Sidney and his wife. "Are you ready to go into poverty with me, sweetheart?" No. Sidney Rigdon, he said, "Are you ready to go into poverty with me," to his wife, and she said, "Let's go." And Sidney Gilbert and the Whitneys, Newel and Elizabeth. But you mentioned John Tanner. And I think people would be interested in that story of consecration. I know they made a movie about it. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>29:39</u> | I'm not an emotional guy. I don't get emotional very often. But the one thing that gets to me is when-- you both were talking about something like the perpetual education fund. It's when someone has, they have whatever resources. And they see someone in need, and they go to them and lift them up. Isn't that the message of the law of consecration, is to go and lift your brothers and sisters to where you are. |
| Hank Smith: | <u>30:12</u> | And to me, there's just something about it that just touches my soul when I see that happen, when someone who has a lot to give like a Martin Harris and just hands it over so, people can be blessed. To me, it is Christlike. It is Savior-centered love, a Savior-centered people. |
| John Bytheway: | <u>30:40</u> | If I remember my Handcart Pioneer stories, there were some people who sacrificed a lot to build handcarts for everybody else and gave up a lot of their wealth that way. If I'm getting 17 Miracles right in the movie, but I wanted to add one thing. I'm a lot older than Hank. My mission call was over the signature of |

Spencer W. Kimball, and he used to talk about the threefold mission of the church, proclaim the gospel, perfect the Saints, and redeem the dead.

John Bytheway: 31:13

I remember hearing that a lot. That's what the church is for. President Monson added care for the poor and needy to that. And the way it's been restated in the latest handbook is really, really nice. It's very concise. In fact, you could summarize it in four words: live, care, invite, unite. And it's live the gospel of Jesus Christ. It's got the work of salvation. Live the gospel of Jesus Christ. Care for the poor and needy. Invite all to come unto Christ, and unite families for eternity.

John Bytheway: 31:47

And it's a little easier to explain to a 11-year-old kid we're going to unite families than to say go redeem the dead, kid. But you can tell him that he can do indexing and temple work. And so, I love the way it's been restated. Live the gospel of Jesus Christ, care for the poor and needy, invite all to come unto Christ, and unite families for eternity. I just thought Section 78 is a care for the poor and needy thing. And now, that is articulated as one of the four missions of the church.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 32:15

Yeah. Well said. I think we can move on to Section 79 and 80 and cover these two sections. These are sections that become very near and dear to some of the brethren. I know Elder Bednar's had a lot to say about missionary work. And one of my ecclesiastical callings right now is to work in a branch presidency at the MTC and even though we're in a hiatus right now. And Elder Bednar is one of the favorite speakers to come there.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 32:50

And he's spoken about these two revelations about the importance of verse two about doing work under the direction of the comforter, and in directing a missionary, what he would do for any given day. But historically, what's going on here is that these revelations, you can see it's March. It's 1832. And this revelation is given to a man by the name of Jared Carter.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 33:21

Jared Carter has come down to Hiram, Ohio, and he's asked Joseph, "What would the Lord have of me? I've just returned from my mission in the East." Jared Carter had been born in Benson, Vermont. He had been all the way from Ohio and gone along the water routes and taught the gospel along the way and had had a very successful mission. He had served about three missions at this time. Jared Carter came from a wonderful family. He had two brothers, Simeon Carter and John Carter. They were great missionaries. These are young men in their early 20s who want to serve and do proselytizing work.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>34:03</u>	Jared Carter was a great journalist. He kept the journal of all his missions as did Simeon and John. We have their records. And so, we really know where they went for these missionary activities. And Jared gets down there. By the way, I want to mention, Jared was baptized by Hyrum Smith. And he was one of the early members of the Colesville Branch. When Jared Carter first heard the Book of Mormon preached, and he read. It was like Parley P. Pratt experience for Jared Carter. It was like a bolt of lightning to a soul. And he joined the church before he went home and then told his wife, "Guess what I've done?"
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>34:47</u>	"I joined the church, and we're moving to Ohio." And it changed the Carter's lives forever because he'll convert his two brothers. They'll all join the church. They'll all end up in Ohio. They live in Amherst. What do you think the Lord tells him in this revelation? Joseph approaches and asks the Lord. And you compare these two revelations together because in Section 80, you have Stephen Burnett and Eden Smith.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>35:19</u>	Now, they're called on a mission at the same time, very much the same experience except for where they're called to go in these two revelations is what's important here, the difference between their missions. Notice that Jared Carter should go again into where? The Eastern countries.
Hank Smith:	<u>35:41</u>	Eastern country.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>35:41</u>	"From place to place, and from city to city, in the power of the ordination." In other words, he's to what? He's called back on his same mission he just finished. Now, what would you ask Joseph?
John Bytheway:	<u>35:56</u>	"Why are you sending me back to the same place?"
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>36:05</u>	Yeah. "I just finished my mission. I went up to my hometown. I was gone six months and two days. I baptized over 30 people. And look, you want to send me back? They just heard me preach up there." It sounds like a missionary who's called back to the same area in his mission by his mission president and the missionary would say, "Gosh, President, didn't you know I had served there for six months" or it's called the good sister, brother who called the nursery. And six months ago, they had just been released from the nursery. And now, they've been called back to the nursery. And that's the kind of question.
Hank Smith:	<u>36:49</u>	"I served my time."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>36:51</u>	"I served my time. I've already served there. Is there another place I can serve? Can I go up to Michigan?" Later on, he will go to Michigan. And so, Jared Carter, he doesn't question it, by the way.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>37:06</u>	He says, "If you want me to go, I will go back." Okay. Now given what we've just been talking about here, why is Eden Smith when he gets his call in verse Section 80, when Stephen Burnett where you'll go into the world, and you'll preach to the gospel by the sound of your voice, and inasmuch as you desire a companion, I'll give you Eden Smith.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>37:36</u>	And by the way, in Section 75, Stephen Burnett had another companion named I believe is Eames, given to him. And somehow that didn't work out. And now, he's giving him Eden Smith, "Go and preach my gospel, and it doesn't matter if you go east or west. It matters not. You cannot go amiss."
Hank Smith:	<u>37:59</u>	Jared Carter's like, "Hey."
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>38:02</u>	So, it doesn't matter you can't go amiss as long as you are doing the Lord's work. But Jared-
Hank Smith:	<u>38:13</u>	You're going to the Eastern.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>38:14</u>	And it's almost as if you missed somebody while you were there. It's almost said, "Now, I'm going to send you back. And if you will do what verse 2 says, "And I will send upon him the Comforter, which shall teach him the truth and the way whither he shall go." And you'll find him. You'll find the person I need in the kingdom, and you can go kidding because you're going to follow the comforter."
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>38:43</u>	And so, that's the story, is that Jared Carter goes back to Benson, Vermont, preaches the gospel there. He baptizes practically a whole congregation of other people there, thirty or something people. By the time he's finished with his mission, he's baptized how many? 79. This is Section 79, I don't know how that worked out that way.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>39:08</u>	But the story of the one, the one that we needed while all of the converts were important, he ends up in Bolton, New York. And in Bolton, New York, he places his advertisement to preach and the mayor of the town has to open up the building. And the mayor of the town says, "I guess I have to open up the hall." And he opposed actually the Mormon missionaries to preach that evening.

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>39:44</u>	But he came anyway. He listened to them. He heard of their message of the apostasy, the restoration, the coming forth of the Book of Mormon and the organization of Christ Church, most of all which intrigued him, he heard about the restoration of gifts of the spirit, and that miracles existed still including the gift of healing. He invited the missionaries, Jared Carter and his brother companion, Simeon, to come with him down into their home that night.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>40:23</u>	And this man was named John Tanner, who as you now know had cancer on his leg as the church made this great video. And as you know, he was healed that night and baptized in the lake right next to his home.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>40:41</u>	Now, John Tanner was the mayor of the town, and he owned more property than anybody in town. He owned the hotels. He had a mercantile store. He had all kinds of businesses. He was a wealthy man and a man of great respect. And when he joined the church, his best friends thought that he'd been misrepresented, and he had joined a church, and that this was the worst thing that could ever happen to him and his family.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>41:14</u>	But he realized the power and the gift of the priesthood, and he felt the spirit. And, of course, John Tanner joins the church. It was a year later that the spirit said to him, and he said to his wife, "We need to sell what we can and move to Kirtland, Ohio. The Lord needs me there." Why? Because John Tanner walked into Kirtland with money hanging out of his pockets, and it would result in the purchase of the land for what?
John Bytheway:	<u>41:47</u>	The temple.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>41:47</u>	The Kirtland temple, and that's why Frederick G. Williams was put on the committee of the United Order because he had the land. And John Tanner had the money, and the Lord crossed their paths. And now, what do you have? You have a missionary following this comforter in the spirit, and the Lord found who he needed.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>42:11</u>	As you know, John Tanner will give thousands of dollars to Joseph Smith and the church. And as you know from the movie, one day, Joseph said to John in the streets of Nauvoo, "John, I fear that I will never be able to pay the debts to the church." And that's the movie John's tearing up his 'I owe you's. And he says, "Joseph, you owe me nothing." And then, Joseph says, "What can I do for you, John?"

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>42:47</u>	And he says, "Give me a blessing." And he blessed him that his posterity, in his posterity, would never want for the things of this life. And if you know, some of the Tanners in the church, O. C. Tanner and Elton Tanner, Tanner Clothing Company, all these businesses.
Hank Smith:	<u>43:11</u>	Susan Tanner. Susan Tanner served as the young women's president of the church.
John Bythway:	<u>43:15</u>	John Tanner.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>43:16</u>	And so, the Tanners, they love their John Tanner and his story.
John Bytheway:	<u>43:23</u>	By the way, for those listeners who've never seen the movie, it's on the church's website. It's called "Treasure in Heaven: The John Tanner Story." And if you've never seen it, it's worth your time.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>43:35</u>	It's a marvelous resource, and you see, the Lord can take someone like Jared Carter and accomplish the purposes of the church. And he knows his resources and where they're at, and the same thing is happening day in and day out of the church today. And what a blessing it is for someone like John Tanner back in that day versus the people today in our wards and our stakes in our branches all over the world who come and help and lift up those members of the church who are in need and contribute to the church very liberally way beyond their means of their tithing, and their fast offerings. And they're truly a consecrated individual. And John Tanner's an example of that.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>44:26</u>	So, I have a little follow-up story. As yeah, I take all the BYU students out on the church history sites. And one of the things we ask our students to do is to prepare a biographical sketch of someone that's important to you in your life. Well, I had a student named Evan Smith. And Evan said, "I'm a descendant of John Tanner. I'd like to do a report on him." I said, "We're going to go to Bolton, New York, where he was baptized." And I'm telling you he was excited.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>44:57</u>	And he did his report. Now, this is the miracle that happened that day. We just come over from Sharon, Vermont the day before. Around after lunch, I pulled the bus off, and we drove through the town of Bolton, New York. And we were looking for a place to get off the bus. And I said, "Oh, looks like there's a place. Let's pull off there."

Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>45:24</u>	So, we got off the bus, and we crowded into this little parking lot, and there was a home with the business there like a law firm or something. And we could see the lake just 100 yards away, and he told the whole story of and he was baptized right there, and we said, "Well, how do you know that he's baptized right there?" And he says, "Well, Brother Manscill, didn't you see the sign in front of this home? This is where John Tanner lived." And I go, "I didn't know that. How did we get here?"
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>45:57</u>	He says, "Brother Manscill, I thought you knew where his home was. That's why you pulled off here." I go, "No. I pulled off of here because we were just looking for a place, and this looked like the best place." And I wish I could say the spirit said turn off here. But there was the sign home of John Tanner he lived right there. And we stood there, gave the report.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>46:19</u>	Now, every time I take the group through, we go right to that place because we always have somebody from the Tanner family. So, that's a fun story.
Hank Smith:	<u>46:28</u>	That is. That is a fantastic story. The things we've been talking about today and these incredible early Saints, I don't know. It just fills me with the desire to be a better Latter-day Saint. I just want to be better because of all these stories that we hear.
John Bytheway:	<u>46:47</u>	And I think that kind of ties into, I don't know, what we were just saying about these intersections that God has arranged for Jared Carter, for John Tanner kind of takes us back to Section 77 where the history of the world's already been written. The Lord knows exactly what he's doing. He's putting people in places and in situations to accomplish his work.
Hank Smith:	<u>47:12</u>	Craig, Dr. Manscill, you are a historian and a scholar. You've been teaching this from church history for decades now. You don't look it. But it has been decades now.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>47:25</u>	44 years.
Hank Smith:	<u>47:27</u>	44 years of teaching these things. You've taken, as you've mentioned, hundreds of students through these sites, church history sites. So, I think John and I and our listeners would be greatly blessed to just hear your personal thoughts on Joseph Smith, and his contemporaries in the restoration.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>47:50</u>	At one time in my career as a religious educator, I was asked to... I just finished my PhD at Brigham Young University, and we had six children, and we were at the whims of seminaries and

institute administration to go serve now wherever they ask us. And I remember the call came to go work with the seminaries and institutes in New York City. And, wow, I thought that's going to be a long ways from home.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>48:24</u> | I was hesitant to take my family across the country and uproot them out of their schools and how difficult that was going to be. I was hoping for something to stay in Utah actually. I never thought I would end up at Brigham Young University at that time in the, I believe, that was in 1987. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>48:46</u> | But the call came for us by us and I treated it as a call to head out there, and it was a tribulation. And I went dragging my feet. My wife was probably more optimistic than I was. And on the way out, we were stopping. We were traveling along I-80, and we were approaching Kirtland, Ohio. And I says, "Dear, I think we have some time, and the sights are still opened in Kirtland, Ohio. Can we go and visit it?" And she says, "Let's do it." |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>49:32</u> | So, we dropped the kids in, and we had an opportunity. We met with the missionaries there, and they directed us. They were going to take us through what was called the Newel K. Whitney Store, the bishop's storehouse for the Kirtland Saints and the residents of Joseph Smith and the school of the prophets. And I knew and loved the place. I served my mission there in Ohio. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>50:03</u> | I remember the new Newel K. Whitney store when it had nothing, but a frame, and it was dilapidated and fallen down. Of course, the church had restored it. I loved the place. And I needed that chance and opportunity to somehow help me to understand and accept taking my family across the country. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>50:28</u> | I remember I went up into...I was in the room of the School of the Prophets upstairs. And the missionary had talked, and we had read from Section 88 about the establishment of the school, and we weren't pressed for time. And as the missionaries finished aboard their testimony and the spirit was just cut out with a knife. |
| Dr. Craig K. Ma...: | <u>50:54</u> | And I sat there for a moment, and it was as if a vision opened up to me. And I was look sitting in the room. And as I was watching the door, Joseph Smith appeared in the door and looked in, nodded his head. And Brigham Young and John Taylor and Wilford Woodruff, they all walked by. And they nod at their head. And I just saw it. Oh my gosh, what has been wrong with me? Here I am in the place of consecration. Here I am. And I walked out of the Newel K. Whitney Store 110% committed to |

head out for four years to serve in New York City, Long Island, Bronx, the Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan.

- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 52:02 I had the experience of a lifetime. It wasn't easy. And there was tribulation, and it was financially difficult. But I tell you it changed my life forever. I wouldn't be here today if I had not gone and taken that assignment. I promise you that. So, what I'm saying to you, I've studied the history of the church. I've been to its historical sites. I've been in the journals and the records, and I have students from time to time who come and ask me all the questions about translation of the Book of Mormon or the Mountain Meadow Massacre or anything they want to ask me about the troubling things they find on the internet.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 52:51 And my question to them is this. What is it that you've studied that is willing to take you out of the church? Would you please tell me what it is? Because I want to know it. Somehow, it's escaped me. Would you tell me? And they'll just tell me all of it. Well, this, this, this, this, this, this. And I said, "Please, tell me more. I understand everything that you said. And I'm staying in the church. Why are you choosing to step away from the church?" And they look at me and said, "Well, because of this, this, this."
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 53:33 And I said, "There isn't anything that can remove me from the church within its history or its doctrine or the weaknesses of men and women in the church." I've testified to you that Joseph Smith is the prophet of the restoration. It has been restored through him. I testify that the priesthood and salvation and exaltation can be found, and that we can return to live with God. I am holding on to those truths. And I know them in my heart to be true in Jesus' name, amen.
- Hank Smith: 54:10 Amen. Amen. John, another episode of followHIM is in the books, and we have been just as blessed. I feel like you and I are kind of "what did we do?" We must have helped an old lady across the street in the pre-existence. It's nothing we did here that we deserve this.
- John Bytheway: 54:34 I know. That was just wonderful. And, boy, I can't wait to go to the School of Prphets again. I just want to sit there and imagine that same scene.
- Dr. Craig K. Ma...: 54:47 So, John, I have to tell you a story about you. I was in Nauvoo with all my students and we were in a church meeting and you were there too. And you had a group.

John Bytheway:	<u>54:59</u>	Really?
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>55:00</u>	And you were behind us in the back. And my students would say, "Brother Manscill, that's John Bytheway back there." And said, "Yes, I know. It's John." And they said, "Can we have him teach us, Brother Manscill?" And you can get John Bytheway to teach us, then I said, "I would love to have John teach us, and it would be a privilege to have him around." My students just revered you, John. And they love you. And you've done more for the youth of the church...Both you and Hank, I will tell you and Hank, I was at Carthage. And I brought the students there, my BYU students, and there you were on the lawn. And you had a bus load of people in front of you. And you were talking about the martyrdom. And I sat and listened from a distance. And I was edified and educated.
Hank Smith:	<u>56:05</u>	I remember that. I remember that.
Dr. Craig K. Ma...:	<u>56:08</u>	And I said, "We are in good hands." And I will tell you, you two are larger than life. And I love you. And thank you for your service in the kingdom because you've changed hundreds of lives. And I just want you to know that.
Hank Smith:	<u>56:28</u>	Well, we can't tell you how grateful we are to you that you would come on and bring your expertise because you have changed these sections for me.
John Bytheway:	<u>56:36</u>	Oh, absolutely.
Hank Smith:	<u>56:38</u>	Yeah. Every time we have an expert on like you, Craig, I think, "Oh now, that's my favorite section at Doctrine and Covenants." Section 77 before, I thought, "Well, that's pretty interesting." I just move on. Now, I look at it with new eyes. And that mission call, Section 79, you might just skip over.
John Bytheway:	<u>56:57</u>	Oh so short. Yeah. You might--
Hank Smith:	<u>57:01</u>	We want to thank, of course, Dr. Manscill for being with us. But we want to thank all of you who listened and spent some time with us today. We're grateful for your support, couldn't do it without you. We're thankful for our executive producers, Steve and Shannon Sorensen. We love you both. And, of course, we have a great crew who helps us out, John, behind the scenes and we need to make sure they get acknowledged, David Perry, Lisa Spice, Jamie Nielsen, Kyle Nielsen, Will Staunton and Maria Hilton. Thank you all for help. We love our team. And we hope that you'll join us on our next episode of followHIM.

followHIM Favorites
Episode 29
D&C 77-80

Hank Smith:	00:00	Hello everyone. My name is Hank Smith. I am the host of a podcast called followHIM. I'm here with my co-host, the wonderful John Bytheway. John, every week we do a followHIM favorite where we take the full lesson and just say, you gotta choose one thing. The lesson this week is on sections 77 through 80 of the Doctrine and Covenants, and you get to choose one followHIM favorite. So, what is it?
John Bytheway:	00:26	Okay, I'm gonna choose, and it's always hard, but I'm gonna choose a section that is so short, I probably had skimmed right past it before. And that's section 80. And there's a couple of mission calls here, Steven Burnett and Eden Smith. But there's a verse here. I'm gonna tell you a story and then I'm gonna read the verse. So, we have a homecoming in my ward. I'll just tell you his first name 'cause I don't have his permission. But a return missionary named Cole gets up and he says--oh, I'm sorry I'm losing my headphones.
Hank Smith:	00:56	You do you want me to start over? Do you wanna just do this? This will be fun.
John Bytheway:	00:59	I'll do this. Okay.
Hank Smith:	01:00	Yeah, people will be like...
John Bytheway:	01:03	This is live television folks. So, Cole gets up and he just began his homecoming--we call it a homecoming--in such a wonderful way. He said, I had the privilege of serving during a worldwide pandemic. And I thought, right away, I thought, man, the Lord's blessed him. He's got the right attitude. He said, I went to South Africa and then Covid hit and we were inside. And then I went back home and I didn't even know how long or will I get recalled? What's gonna happen? He said, I started working as a security guard, started training as an EMT, wondering what's the deal. And then he said, I got recalled to New Mexico--Farmington, New Mexico. And he went on Indian reservation, what he called an Indian reservation. And he said that he spent a lot of time there using the skills that he had learned as a security guard and EMT. He thought he was so blessed 'cause I just learned how to do this. And I don't know exactly what happened, but he ended up learning those skills. And then just

as he was getting comfortable there, got called back to South Africa and he said at the end of his talk, my mission was not what I expected, but it turned out more beautiful than I planned.

Hank Smith: 02:09

Oh.

John Bytheway: 02:11

And look at this verse, section 80 verse three, wherefore go, ye preach my gospel, whether to the north or to the south or to the east or to the west, it mattereth not for ye cannot go amiss.

Hank Smith: 02:23

Hmm.

John Bytheway: 02:23

And I thought of Cole in my ward and thought that--it didn't go the way I expected, that it was more beautiful than I planned.

Hank Smith: 02:30

Wow. What a fantastic attitude.

John Bytheway: 02:33

I know.

Hank Smith: 02:34

Yeah. That's absolutely wonderful. I wish I could be more like Cole. My followHIM favorite is section 78, verse 19. The Lord says, he--and we could add she--who receiveth all things with thankfulness shall be made glorious. I grew up, my teenage years were spent listening to Gordon B. Hinkley. And I remember him saying frequently the habit of saying thank you--his hand would go up and down. And he said, the habit of saying thank you is the mark of an educated person. The habit of saying thank you is the mark of an educated person. And so in our house sometimes we'll sit down and we'll start eating dinner and I'll say, Hey, how do you tell if someone's smart? And all my kids will go, thank you mom. Thank you mom, thank you for dinner. Because the way you can tell if someone's smart is if they have the habit of saying thank you. So...

John Bytheway: 03:26

You know what I love? I love about that too, Hank. Is it's receiving all things, even a trial, a hard time.

Hank Smith: 03:34

Right. All things, that's a pretty high percentage word.

John Bytheway: 03:36

That you come around in the end and say, okay, I learned something. Thank you for that.

Hank Smith: 03:41

Yeah. And that ties into what Cole said, doesn't it? Right? He received his changes in his mission with thankfulness. When that's hard to do, and it's hard to do even if you headphones keep falling out.

John Bytheway:	03:52	Yeah. Or even if you move your arms and they like pop out and you're not expecting it. Yeah. But you just keep talking like nothing happened. You know?
Hank Smith:	04:01	Hey, we want you to join us on our full podcast because we do this the whole time. If you're really, if you're like, these guys are weird, I want to watch more, you can join us. it's called followHIM. You can find it wherever you get your podcasts. So, we hope you'll join us soon.