

EPISODE 33

Dr. Anthony Sweat



D&C 88

“Establish ... a House of God”

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 Descriptions:

Part 1:

How do we prepare for heaven on earth and what is the other Comforter? Dr. Anthony Sweat returns to discuss Section 88 and how we can become a celestial people. Learning from "The Olive Leaf," the Saints learn how to prepare the world, and themselves, for the return of the Savior.

Part 2:

Can you explain the importance of baptism or marriage in one sentence? Can you describe the significance of the temple endowment in one sentence? Understanding the temple endowment can be more complicated. Still, Dr. Anthony Sweat continues shares how the School of the Prophets enabled the Savior to reveal Himself to a company of endowed priests and priestesses and teaches the purpose of the endowment--a purpose you can share in a sentence!

Timecodes:

Part 1

- 00:00 Welcome to follow HIM with Hank Smith and John Bytheway
- 01:27 Welcome to Dr. Anthony Sweat and bio
- 4:06 School of the Prophets and summary of Section 88
- 06:06 Why Section 88 is called “The Olive Leaf” yet there is trouble between the Church in Ohio and Missouri
- 11:53 Missouri Saints are far from Kirtland and are criticizing Church leadership
- 18:49 The Lord tells the Saints how to prepare for heaven on earth
- 24:11 Who is the Second Comforter
- 29:25 How Jesus is the law, the light, and truth.
- 32:21 The importance of a physical body and spirit--the importance of loving our physical bodies
- 41:01 The Lord will only give us gifts that we desire (including Celestial blessings)
- 45:43 The Savior will return to begin the Millennium where we will continue to work and grow
- 47:34 The entire universe testifies there is a God
- 50:25 Dispensational read to the parable of the laborers in the vineyard
- 55:27 Become someone who seeks light and virtue and you will attract similar people
- 56:67 End of Part I

Part 2:

- 00:00 Welcome to Part II
- 00:14 Can you describe each covenant in one sentence?
- 04:18 Joseph will make high priests of both men and women
- 09:48 In order to receive the endowment, one must be pure.
- 13:11 The types of laughter and humor that are appropriate
- 20:59 The Lord is establishing his temple and an order. The endowment is an dress rehearsal for power
- 24:45 Washing of feet instituted and the D&C contains the language of the endowment
- 20:09 The temple covenants that are part of the endowment
- 31:56 Instructions on how to teach one another
- 34:38 The most efficacious way to follow the Savior is through covenants in the temple
- 37:45 Worthiness was a prerequisite for temple attendance
- 41:57 The School of the Prophets begins immediately and the Savior and God the Father appear to some
- 46:17 Parents and teachers need to better understand the temple and prepare our children and students
- 49:49 Dr. Sweat’s one sentence summary of the endowment

- 52:48 Dr. Sweat's feelings about the Restoration and Joseph Smith
- 1:09:37 End of podcast

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Revelations in Context:

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If you enjoyed Episode 33 with Dr. Anthony Sweat, you may also like:

Dr. Sweat's Personal Website:

<https://anthonysweat.com>

Dr. Sweat's Podcast--Y Religion:

<https://rs.byu.edu/media/y-religion>

Dr. Sweat's book *Repicturing the Restoration: New Art to Expand our Understanding*:

https://deseretbook.com/p/rsc-repicturing-the-restoration-new-art-to-expand-our-understanding?variant_id=188197-hardcover

Dr. Sweat's Appearance on Leading Saints:

<https://leadingsaints.org/seekers-wanted-an-interview-with-anthony-sweat/>

Dr. Sweat's Article About the Temple (excerpted from his book *The Holy Invitation: Understanding Your Sacred Temple Endowment*):

<https://www.ldsiving.com/When-You-Feel-Uncomfortable-or-Confused-in-the-Temple-Other-Insights/s/86925>

Bibliography:

Anthony Sweat is an Associate Professor of Church History and Doctrine at Brigham Young University. He received his bachelor's degree in painting and drawing and his Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction. He is the author of several articles and books dealing with the teachings and history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His most recent book is Repicturing the Restoration. Anthony is a regular speaker at Latter-day Saint events and conferences. As a practicing artist his paintings center on religious themes, including underrepresented events in Church history. He and his wife, Cindy, are the parents of seven children.



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EPISODE 33 • PART I

Dr. Anthony Sweat



D&C 88

Hank Smith:	00:01	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:	00:09	And I'm John Bytheway.
Hank Smith:	00:11	We love to learn.
John Bytheway:	00:11	We love to laugh.
Hank Smith:	00:13	We want to learn and laugh with you.
John Bytheway:	00:15	As together, we followHIM.
Hank Smith:	00:19	Welcome, my friends, to another episode of followHIM. My name is Hank Smith. And I am here with my beloved co-host, John Bytheway. Hi, John.
John Bytheway:	00:32	Hi. I like that one.
Hank Smith:	00:34	Yup.
John Bytheway:	00:34	You look jazzy today.
Hank Smith:	00:35	Yeah. We call you John the Beloved sometimes, because you are a beloved soul, you are a beloved soul. We want to remind everybody to come on to social media, give us a try on Instagram and Facebook. You can find video recordings on our YouTube channel, transcripts, and show notes at followhim.co, followhim.co. And of course, we want you to rate and review the podcast that helps us out quite a bit. Now, John, we get to talk to one of the great minds in the Church every week. It's not every week that we get to talk to a great mind and someone who we've already visited and who we are good friends with. So tell us who we have this week.
John Bytheway:	01:27	We're so excited to have Tony Sweat back again, and really excited that he's going to talk about this section, too. And, in fact, I didn't tell Tony this was coming. But this little book, <i>The</i>

Holy Invitation, really has blessed my children as they are preparing to go to the temple. And I thought since I read his long bio before, I'd read the one at the back of this book, which was published in 2017. And then maybe Tony can give us any updates.

John Bytheway:	01:55	But here's our short bio about the author on the last page. Anthony Sweat is an Assistant Professor of Church History and Doctrine at Brigham Young University. He's the author of numerous best-selling books and a regular speaker at various LDS events and conferences. He received a BFA in painting and drawing from the University of Utah and an MEd and PhD degrees in Education from Utah State University. He and his wife Cindy are parents of seven children and reside in Utah. And we're so glad to have you back, Tony. Thanks for being willing to come again.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	02:33	I'm so honored to be on here again with both of you on this wonderful podcast with both of my friends. I just love you both so much and so grateful to be here.
Hank Smith:	02:42	John, when we first started, I knew that this year would be Doctrine and Covenants. And Tony lives a good 500 yards away from me and we've been friends for many years. And so I immediately called him and said, "Hey, what am I going to do with the Doctrine and Covenants and Church History? How's this going to work?" And he said, "I think something like this. Like I don't know, you'll do great." I'm like, "Will you be our first guest?" "Yes, as long as I can do Section 88."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	03:12	Eighty-eight.
Hank Smith:	03:13	There is something about 88. And of course, I'm like, "Yeah, sure, sure. Yeah, you can have 88." And I didn't realize that this is a landmark section. I don't know. But in my kids' video game language, I think we level up here. Tony, I know you're excited about it. I know you love it. And that's going to be probably one of the best parts of our conversation today. So, we're just going to hand it over to you. Back up as far as you want to give us some context and some history to what leads up to this. And let's go from there.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	03:53	Okay. All right. I'll back up. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void.

John Bytheway:	04:03	Can you go back further, please?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	04:04	I won't go that far. No, actually half-joking, that does have something to do with that. And I'll kind of tie in, as Joseph, like we've talked about before, his translation of the Bible is going to affect Section 88 or affect what's going on in particular with the School of the Prophets in Section 88. But, I mean, this really is a landmark revelation, as Hank said, where we were half-joking before we hit record on this that Joseph Smith has just barely turned 27. And we miscalculated his age at first. And so I think he's like 26. And they're like, "No, no, no, he's 27." We're like, "Oh, yeah, that explains it." Now he can produce a revelation like this.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	04:51	This is a soul-stirring, soul-expanding revelation. It covers everything from the light of Christ that governs everything to planets. And there's parables, there are specific instructions, there's the School of the Prophets, there's building a temple, there are things about the Second Coming. There's great one-liners here. I mean, it is a revelation among revelations. Again, I'll never tire of saying this. If you want to reconfirm or deepen your testimony in the prophetic calling of Joseph Smith, just read something like section 88 and ask yourself repeatedly, "Where did this come from?" It's just unbelievable to me, these kinds of revelations that are so expanding and exalting.
Hank Smith:	05:45	Last week we talked to Dr. Ken Alford about war--Section 87. And so he talked about how these two go together, that they put them side by side. So yeah, go back as far as you want.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	06:03	So Dr. Alford, I love to death, also he's a great friend of mine. If you have the printed version, you could circle Section 87 where it says, "Revelation on war that Joseph is given on Christmas Day in 1832." And then flip the page and go over to this Section 88 revelation on peace, he calls it. If you look at the section heading-
John Bytheway:	06:30	"The olive leaf."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	06:31	... "The olive leaf plucked from the Tree of paradise, the Lord's message of peace to us." And I want to give a little more context. I think that's appropriate. And actually in your <i>Come Follow, Me</i> materials from the Church, they highlight that. That's not how Joseph Smith himself contextualizes Section 88. The reason why he calls it the olive leaf, obviously, it's plucked from paradise because there's such soul exalting doctrines in here.

But there's also some tension going on between leaders of the Church in Ohio and leaders of the church in Missouri.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 07:12 | Back in the 1800s, it was just difficult running a church that was hundreds and hundreds of miles away when you have one body in Ohio and one body out in Missouri. There was just communication. There were issues with leadership with how we're doing things. Joseph, why are you in Ohio if Zion is in Missouri? There are different things going on that there seems to be continued tension all the way through the year 1832 between the leaders in Missouri and Ohio. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 07:47 | And let me just read you a little bit from a letter, where we get this from is a letter that Joseph Smith writes to WW Phelps over in Missouri. He writes it on January 11, 1833, so just a few weeks after Section 88 is given. And that's where Joseph Smith sends Section 88 to the Saints over in Missouri and calls it the "olive leaf." That's where we're getting that quote from in the section heading is this letter to WW Phelps. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 08:13 | So, this is what Joseph said. "I send you the olive leaf, which we have plucked from the Tree of Paradise, the Lord's message of peace to us." Now, here's the next line in the letter, the context. "For though our brother in Zion indulge in feelings toward us, which are not according to the requirements of the New Covenant, yet we have the satisfaction knowing the Lord approves and has accepted us and established his name in Kirtland." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 08:44 | So it's like this is the Lord's message of peace to us. So even though you guys are upset at us and are having hard feelings toward us, hey, this revelation shows the Lord is happy with what we're doing here in Ohio. That's one of the major contexts of it. And later in the letter, Joseph writes, "Our hearts are greatly grieved at the spirit which is breathed, both in your letter, that's WW Phelps, and that of Brother Sidney Gilbert, the wearying spirit which is wasting the strengths of Zion like a pestilence." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 09:18 | So they wrote some critical letters. Yeah. Ouch. We don't have WW Phelps or Sidney Gilbert's letter that they wrote, but we have this that shows that they weren't kind letters. They wrote these letters in mid-December. This is out of Joseph's papers editors. They write, other communications from Missouri elders early in 1832 had revealed a rift between church leaders in Missouri and Ohio, in part to resolve these differences Joseph |

Smith traveled in Missouri in the spring of 1832 and met with various leaders, but subsequent letters indicated the problems remained.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 09:57 | In July of '32, Joseph Smith reproved WW Phelps for his "cold and indifferent spirit", and accused other Missouri leaders of raking up every fault and looking for moats in the eyes of those who are laboring with a tender and prayerful heart for their salvation. So that's a long way to say there's not happy feelings between Ohio and Missouri leaders right now. And this revelation seems to be saying, the Lord saying, "Let me give a message of peace. Let me settle your hearts. Let me tell you in Kirtland anyway, at least, that I'm happy with you, I'm pleased." But then the Lord is also going to lay out a number of things that I think will try to help the Latter-day Saints live more, as Joseph said, have feelings more that are in harmony with the covenant and more of a celestial approach with each other both in Ohio and Missouri. |
| Hank Smith: | 10:46 | Let me ask you, because I know these are good men out in Missouri. So what is causing, do you think, do they feel like, hey, we're out here in the middle of nowhere because we've talked about what Missouri is like. It's not what they had expected. So, I don't want to excuse, what did he call it? "Their wearying complaints are like a pestilence." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 11:14 | Orson Hyde and Hyrum Smith called WW Phelps and Sidney Gilbert's letters "low, dark, and blind insinuations." We can use those words, Hank. |
| Hank Smith: | 11:24 | Man. So, give me the perspective of those out in Missouri. So, what's happening out there? Do you think that they're just so frustrated that they're sending... These are good people sending these frustrating letters. Hey, you're over in Kirtland where it's 1832. We're out in Missouri where they live like it's 1621. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 11:52 | Yeah. What's hard is it really is all conjecture, because we don't have a lot of like Gilbert's and Phelps' letter and different things. But it's easy to see that there's some faultfinding going on. It's easy to see that there's second guessing. One of the ways that I think that justifies this is in the future, when you study section 101, and the Lord gives the parable of the tower in that Section, it says that they begin to consult amongst themselves in Zion over in Missouri and to question and to set up variants one with another. |

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	12:27	So it seems to be second guessing of leadership, which is a natural human tendency. Whether in our families we second guess our parents when we're growing up. At school, our teachers, our coaches, I mean, how many times have you heard people complain about the way a coach runs things or a teacher or their boss at work or even in the church, people who are doing their very best to live consecrated lives and to serve out of just good hearts, we find ourselves becoming critical and having moats in our eyes and looking for beings and others? I think it's a part of fallen human nature.
Hank Smith:	13:07	I have never heard someone criticize a church leader. I don't know what you guys are talking about. I've never heard someone criticize the bishop, yeah, or the Relief Society President. I mean, this happens all the time.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	13:21	All the time. And like you said, you were saying, Hank, these people out in Missouri, bless their souls, they are doing hard work and they are giving, sacrificing, and doing the very best. But like all of us, both in Ohio and Missouri, we are facing a fight against fallen men to try to live a more celestial way of life. And that's what they're fighting against. So some of Section 88, again, and I tried to address this of like if you guys want to be endowed with power in your life, we've got to rise above light speeches and evil speaking and fault-finding, "finding fault with one another." You'll see these hints throughout Section 88 of some of the things you're struggling with.
Hank Smith:	14:08	Yeah. And maybe I'm off here, Tony, you can tell me. But I would imagine that if I know the leaders in Ohio have homes and beds and stores and all these things around them and I'm out here in Missouri where there's bars and angry neighbors that I would say, "Oh, life is so easy for you out there in Kirtland."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	14:34	Yeah. And I think there's got to be some of that. And again, that's just assumptions on our end. As you've talked about in previous episodes, they are living on the frontier and there's probably part of them like, yeah, you're back in Ohio where it's more comfortable and up to speed and we're out here roughing it. You came out here and visit us but why are you not staying with us? If this is going to be where Zion is built, shouldn't the profit be here? Now that's just conjecture. I want to say that.
Hank Smith:	15:04	We don't know.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	15:05	But we don't know. But that seems like a logical inference that could be made as well.
Hank Smith:	15:10	Yeah. Okay. These poor souls, these are real people. And I love to get the context, because you're saying, "Yeah, look at them. They're human."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	15:23	Yeah. And I want to be careful, too. No leader is faultless. And surely Joseph has faults. He'd be the first to say and so the parents and coaches and bishops. And so it's not an issue of saying, hey, if there are faults and problems, let's ignore them. We don't ignore them. We do bring them up. But I think we do it in a spirit of charity, which is what Section 88 will say, "Clothe yourself with the bonds of charity." We do it assuming good intent for the most part, because people are trying to do good instead of a spirit of harsh judgment, harsh criticism, harsh, unfair accusation. That seems to be what's driving a wedge.
Hank Smith:	16:04	I want to bring back something as Michael Wilcox talked about John, when he said we live in a culture of outrage, right?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	16:12	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	16:12	Let me find something to be outraged about. And you usually can find something, if you want to.
John Bytheway:	16:17	Oh, gosh, yeah. Listen to the radios. I think it's called K-Outrageous, the channel that I listen to. Every day, there's something to be mad about.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	16:29	But I mean, John and Hank, I'll put you guys on the spot. Section 121, no power or influence can be had or ought to be maintained by virtue of the preset only by?
Hank Smith:	16:42	Persuasion, gentleness, long suffering.
John Bytheway:	16:47	"Love unfeigned." Yeah.
Hank Smith:	16:49	Kindness, pure knowledge, which shall greatly enlarge the soul without hypocrisy and without guile. How did I do there, huh?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	16:58	You passed, my brother.
Hank Smith:	16:59	Thanks, thanks.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	17:01	These are principles they're trying to learn in how to live and communicate celestially. And they continue over years and years and years. And so do you and I.
Hank Smith:	17:12	Yeah. But then to get some of these harsh letters, that would be hurtful. If I got a harsh email from Tony, I'd be like, "Hey."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	17:23	Easy.
Hank Smith:	17:24	Easy. Yeah, I'm doing my best here.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	17:25	Walked a half mile over to my house and talk to me.
Hank Smith:	17:27	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	17:28	I'm going to go back to my lean, too, and fire off a letter.
Hank Smith:	17:31	And just the means, I don't think... Maybe those of us who just are so used to our day and time can understand the frustration of writing a letter and getting a response, what, two and a half months later. I mean, and you need information and trying to...
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	17:55	I served my mission in Bolivia in the '90s. And it took two weeks for letters to get to us. And if we wrote it took two weeks. So it was a month cycle of communication, which is something that in today's day and age, younger people don't understand. But you did feel distant. I felt like I was on a whole another planet. And I can see that Ohio and Missouri, it felt like they were running their own churches a little bit at this time.
Hank Smith:	18:23	Yeah. Edward Partridge is just going to have to move forward, right? You can't wait for an answer for every move.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	18:34	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	18:35	Because it's going to take two and a half months. And that's if Joseph gets it and responds and sends it right back.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	18:41	Right away.
Hank Smith:	18:42	Right?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	18:42	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	18:43	You feel like we kind of understand what's happening that leads up to it?

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	18:49	That's really the main context of why Joseph calls it the "olive leaf." And you'll see some of that context in some of the revelations. But other than that, then the Lord just explodes ideas. And if we want to move into content, like an easy way I would summarize Section 88 for people at home, if they're getting ready to study it, what I'd invite you to do is to ask yourself what do we learn about heaven and how to prepare ourselves for heaven on earth? That's kind of what Section 88 is getting at, as a whole. If that was a look for, what are you going to learn about heaven, and then what do you learn by you and I to prepare ourselves on earth for heaven when heaven comes to earth? Like it's trying to prepare celestial people as a whole.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	19:40	Yeah. So, that 127 through the end is that January 3rd revelation. And you can see a shift there, 126 there's an amen, [inaudible 00:19:49] amen. And again, the order of the house prepared for the presidency, they actually treated these as two different revelations. And then when they printed the 1834 edition of the Doctrine and Covenants, they're subsumed into one because this last part gives instructions for the School of the Prophets. So, since 88 tells them to start the school of the Prophets, they're joined together into one.
John Bytheway:	20:14	Some of our listeners may have visited the Newel K. Whitney store and been upstairs. And if I remember right, the missionaries told us, "See, this room right here, adjacent to the School of the Prophets is on the side of the wall, this is where Section 88 was given." And I looked at the sister missionaries, "Do you get to like to do gospel study in this room?"
Hank Smith:	20:37	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	20:37	And how cool is that?
Hank Smith:	20:39	How cool is that?
John Bytheway:	20:39	Is that where it was given?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	20:41	Yeah. It was probably received there. And Joseph had that adjacent room, sometimes called the Revelation Room.
John Bytheway:	20:47	There's so much here that we better get started, because the Sabbath is coming in a few days. Tony, you mentioned something that these little phrases in here that are just amazingly beautiful and profound and everything. Why don't we jump into the text?

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	21:08	I mean, just a few one-liners, before we look at the bigger picture. I mean, a few one-liners to highlight from the top, verse 15, "The spirit and the body are the soul of man." Verse 73, "I will hasten my work in its time."
Hank Smith:	21:24	We might have heard that a couple of times in the last-
John Bytheway:	21:27	Yeah. It seems like it's happening.
Hank Smith:	21:29	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	21:29	Verse 78, "Teach ye diligently." Verse 118, "Seek learning by study and also by faith." I mean, one-liner after one... Elder Maxwell would be proud. I mean, these are just awesome one-liners that packed so much punch, let alone in the broader context of what it's teaching.
Hank Smith:	21:54	Yeah. "Teach ye diligently out of the best books."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	21:58	-Out of the best books. Yeah.
John Bytheway:	22:00	"A house of order, a house of prayer." And my kids' favorite, "Retire to thy bed early." Yeah, they love that one.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	22:07	Yes. That's their favorite.
Hank Smith:	22:09	"Cease to sleep longer than it's needful."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	22:12	That somehow was the one-liner that has not gotten legs underneath it in the Church over the years.
Hank Smith:	22:18	It's so funny. I'm going to put that right in my kids' ear this week.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	22:26	And we can talk about those in context, because what the Lord is trying to do there with these elders with the School of the Prophets. As you're going through this section, again, like I mentioned, you're going to learn things about heaven, and there's all this stuff on the light of Christ and he's the power of this... You're going to learn stuff about law and the Celestial Kingdom, and every kingdom has laws.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	22:45	So I would kind of say, if it's all right, let's kind of look at some of these heaven revelations. And then the second part is more practical, which is build a temple, organize a school of the prophets, and start to learn to live a more celestial life. And those are kind of to be the two groupings that they're not in

that sequential order but they roughly address those two themes in here.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 23:11 | So if you look in Section 88, if you look at verse 3, "Wherefore I now send upon you another Comforter, even upon you, my friends, that it may abide in your hearts, even the Holy Spirit of promise." Verse 4, "This comforter is the promise which I've given to you eternal life." I mean, so out of the gates, this revelation kicks off with a big idea on the other comforter. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 23:39 | And Joseph Smith himself explains this. Let me read you this quote from Joseph. He says, "The other Comforter has spoken of is a subject of great interest and perhaps understood by a few of this generation. After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, is baptized for the remission of sins, receives the Holy Ghost, which is the first comforter. So the first comforter is the gift of the Holy Ghost. Then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and living by every word of God. And the Lord will soon say to him, 'Son, thou shalt be exalted.'" |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 24:16 | "Now, what is this other Comforter? It is no more nor less than the Lord Jesus Christ himself. And this is the sum and substance of the whole matter. And when any man obtains this last Comforter, he will have the percentage of Jesus Christ to attend to him or appear unto him from time to time. And he will manifest the father into him and they will take up their abode with him. And the visions of the heavens will be opened unto him. And the Lord will teach him face to face that he may have a perfect knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of God." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 24:49 | Now, wow, that's big itself. So, we'll come back to this because I actually think these verses 3 and 4 set the context for what the School of the Prophets is trying to accomplish. They are trying to obtain this other Comforter. That's why it's called the School of Prophets. It's the school of people who are trying to have prophetic power, prophetic visions, prophetic knowledge, prophetic experiences, and to achieve this other comforter. So I'll come back to that as we talk about the School of the Prophets. But that's an important context for what they're trying to achieve as a whole. |
| Hank Smith: | 25:26 | This is a I don't know if it's a reference to but on the Savior's last night with his apostles in John 14, he says, "And I will pray to the Father and he shall give you another Comforter that he may |

		abide with you forever." Verse 18, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	25:49	Yeah, yeah.
Hank Smith:	25:50	You can see that tie in from what the Savior's said to his apostles.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	25:53	You can. And even in this, we'll talk about this parable, the Lord is, in essence, saying, "I'm going to manifest myself to my people in their order and in their time and in my own way, and it is all about him, though, manifesting himself to his people, personally." Verse 6, you just got to love verse 6, just in context of our Savior's atoning empathy. How many of our prophets, seers, and revelators have testified that there is no pain, no sorrow, no mortal experience that you and I go through that Jesus himself does not perfectly empathize with through the awful arithmetic of the atonement, as Elder Maxwell called it. But in verse 6, speaking of Jesus, "He that ascended up on high, as also he descended below all things, in that he comprehended all things." That's a great atoning empathy verse right there as well.
Hank Smith:	26:58	I like that phrase, "Atoning empathy."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	27:02	Yeah. He's in and through in all things. To be totally honest, verse 7 through 13, about this light of Christ, I'm not sure I grasp it but I just know it's awesome.
John Bytheway:	27:18	Yeah, the light in the moon and you're, "What?"
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	27:21	Yeah. And the light and the sun and the star and the earth and how it moves. And it's in everything and it quickens your understanding. It proceeds from God in verse 12. It fills the immensity of space. It's the life and the law and it's by everything that's governed in the power of him. I mean, I'm not going to get into subatomic particles and wavelengths. I would just summarize this as saying, Jesus is the light, Jesus is the law, Jesus is the power. I think it's just trying to say this is Christ's world. These are his creations. He's in and through in all things he's governing. He's in charge. He is the life, the light, the law, the power, the way, the truth, he's all of this. That's my simplistic way of summarizing through verse 13.

Hank Smith:	28:10	Yeah. And that's a fun discussion to have with students or with your children, is how is Christ like light? Then talk about light and make the comparisons.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	28:20	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	28:20	Because no one likes to live in the dark. No one wants to be outside and you're out like a campground with your family or with a church group or something. And we're stumbling around in the dark, what do you need? You need light. So there's so many parallels there that I-
John Bytheway:	28:42	And I love that, too, that he shares that nickname with us that I am the light of the world. And when he appears to the Nephi times, the light and the life of the world, and then he tells us, "Ye are the light of the world," and-
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	28:59	I love that.
John Bytheway:	29:00	And he shares that with us. And then towards the latter in 3 Nephi, "Hold up your light that it may shine before men, I am the light that you shall hold up, and how it kind of I give unto you to be a light to this people," he says in 3 Nephi. And Matthew, he's like, "Ye are the light of the world." But I think, "Wow, we get to share that nickname with him."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	29:25	Yeah. And we get to share priesthood power. If he's the power, we call that priesthood. We get priesthood authority, we get priesthood covenants. There's power that we all share with God. I like what you guys have just said. That'd be a fun thing for parents with their kids to say how is Jesus-
John Bytheway:	29:45	Like light.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	29:46	... like light? How is he like law? How is he like power? How is he like truth? How does he give us those things in our life?
John Bytheway:	29:54	Another fun part is is what eclipses light and what gets in the way of the light? I remember Joseph Fielding McConkie in my master's program shaking his finger at us and saying, "Don't ever become a spiritual eclipse." If the moon gets in front of the sun, that's an eclipse. But what happens if you or anything or anyone gets in front of the son, S-O-N? That's a spiritual eclipse. That was a day you'll never forget that we always want to be pointing to Christ, to the light.

Hank Smith:	30:27	I've always loved that there's three days of darkness. Oh, I haven't loved that. They probably didn't love it. Three days of absolute darkness and then the voice comes.
John Bytheway:	30:37	And then He comes.
Hank Smith:	30:38	"I am the light."
John Bytheway:	30:40	I know. It's like when God does an object lesson, it's like, "Whoo, I get the best object lesson."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	30:47	He's got a few more tools at his fingertips than you and I do.
John Bytheway:	30:49	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	30:52	Right. I have a motion light outside. And I'll go out there in the dark and I'm like, "Whoo, it's kind of scary." So I start waving around like, "Where's the light? Turn the light on out here." Because it brings a sense of peace and understanding and, oh, I can see what's around me, I'm not in danger. So there's just so many parallels that we could make there.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	31:13	I'm going to hold on to this for a second. But when he says he's also the law, John, you just mentioned in 3 Nephi, "I am the life, I am the light." In 3 Nephi, he also says, "I am the law." And we'll talk about this. A lot of Section 88 deals with law. And if we're not careful, we're existing in a culture right now that is very centered on everything is relative, whatever you want to do is fine, you do your culture.
John Bytheway:	31:46	No absolutes.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	31:47	We'd love to talk about Jesus is light, Jesus is truth. Jesus is power. We can never fail to teach Jesus is law. He is a God of law. And there are laws that are given to govern kingdoms in ways we live. And we don't ever want to become legalistic and farcical. But we also can never dismiss Christ as the law and the requirements which he does expect of us to attain in the certain glories and blessings and powers in our life.
Hank Smith:	32:16	I'm starting to see it come up in these future verses.
John Bytheway:	32:21	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	32:22	The law, law.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	32:22	Yeah, law, law. And we'll talk about those. I do want to show in verse 14 to 15, he's going to shift now to the redemption of the earth. But 15, we touched on already, make sure you have that highlighted. I mean, that is a theological discourse in itself that our doctrine is that we believe that the soul isn't just the spirit, that the soul also is your body, your temporal body. And thus, there are a lot of things that deal in this Church with temporal aspects of our bodies, whether that has to do with Word of Wisdom, or the Law of Chastity, or other things of how we treat the body.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	33:09	As Elder Holland one time said, "You cannot harm the body without harming the soul," based on this doctrine in section 88, verse 15. I mentioned beforehand, if I can do a little plug here, I run a podcast for BYU religion called the <i>Y Religion Podcast</i> where BYU professors talk about their research publications. There's a great one from Jordan Watkins called "The Eternal and the Temporal." And he just talks about how you cannot separate temporal things from spiritual things.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	33:50	You can't separate it. The spirit and the body is the soul. They are one together. And so, again, we have temporal things that direct us in this Church. But just one application I thought of as I was preparing for this podcast was just what a blessing your body is. And if we could really learn to embrace that doctrine, love your body as God created it, as he gave it, in all of its varied size, shapes, capacities, colors, inclinations, ways, your body is a gift from God as a whole.
Hank Smith:	34:28	That's awesome. You mentioned Elder Holland. It's a talk called "Personal Purity." And I remember this because it was the late '90s and I was a teenager. This is the quote. He says, "The body is an essential part of the soul." This distinctive and very important Latter-day Saint doctrine underscores why sexual sin is so serious. "We declare that one who uses the God-given body of another without divine sanction," that's marriage, "abuses the very soul of that individual, abuses the central purposes and processes of life, the very key to life," as president Boyd K. Packer once called it.
Hank Smith:	35:15	And then he makes this statement, "In exploiting the body of another, which means exploiting his or her soul, one desecrates the atonement of Christ which saved that soul and which makes possible the gift of eternal life." And now you still remember sitting and hearing him say the next sentence. "And when one mocks the son of righteousness, one steps into a realm of heat

hotter and holier than the noonday sun, you cannot do so and not be burned."

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	35:48	Oh, Elder Holland bringing it.
Hank Smith:	35:51	Yeah, I remember that talk.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	35:55	You and I are the same age, Hank. And I was also a teenager and I remember that talk burned and seared into my soul. I think I actually called my bishop when that talk ended.
Hank Smith:	36:07	Yeah. I mean, I still remember him grabbing the pulpit. But it comes from that doctrine in Section 88.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	36:14	He's referencing Section 88, verse 15. It's a powerful one line verse alone just wedged in this huge section as a whole.
Hank Smith:	36:23	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	36:24	I'd like to mention that the Book of Mormon appears not to be as careful about soul and spirit and differentiating them. And this is very clarifying that verse because, in fact, it's footnoted. Footnote 15C has Alma 40:23 there where it says the soul and the body shall be reunited. And I remember Dr. Robert Millet just saying, sometimes the Book of Mormon uses soul and spirit interchangeably. And this verse helps to say, okay, just know that sometimes the Book of Mormon uses soul and spirit interchangeably, but the definition of the soul is body and spirit together.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	37:09	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	37:10	So it's a clarifying verse for me. And I'm glad you said that, Tony, it's a theologically important verse.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	37:15	It really is.
Hank Smith:	37:17	Well, I just love this idea because it fits very well with our doctrine of why the resurrection is so important.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	37:24	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	37:25	The spirit and the body unite again.
John Bytheway:	37:27	Yeah. And that goes to verse 27. We need to talk about the difference between a spirit body and a spiritual body.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	37:35	Yeah. And it's also going to manifest itself later in this revelation with the school of the prophets when he says, "Wash your bodies. Be clean." Hank's favorite verse, "Go to bed early. Get up early. Don't sleep longer than is needful." These all come back to there's a connection between the temporal and the spiritual. And you've got to take care of the temporal well.
Hank Smith:	38:05	That's interesting. Yeah. I wonder what he would say today. Don't live off Diet Coke. We're going to get into this, Tony.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	38:13	Hank, I've got to correct that, what you just said, because remember-
Hank Smith:	38:17	Because the Lord has-
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	38:18	This who shall not be named were cleared in general conference. And then BYU shortly thereafter, allowed us to buy Coke on campus.
Hank Smith:	38:26	I'm not saying-
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	38:26	-closer to the restoration of all things, not a step further away.
Hank Smith:	38:30	-I said don't live off. I didn't-
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	38:33	-Oh, okay.
Hank Smith:	38:36	But you're right in that if you're... It's really hard to feel the spirit for me, personally, if my body doesn't feel well.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	38:45	It's good to say in the best way we can, let's try to treat the temporal well, because the temporal does affect the spiritual. Then these verses, in the 17-18, he's like, "Hey, this earth is going to become the celestial kingdom. The meek will inherit it." That's our doctrine also. When we inherit the Celestial Kingdom, we're actually going nowhere. We're simply trying to have this prepared and make this world become ready for our king and have God's will be done on this earth as it is in heaven. And this earth will become the celestial Kingdom and bodies that in verse 20, bodies who are the celestial kingdom may possess it forever and ever.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	39:31	So this is really important here where I would classify verse 18 all the way through 40 has to do with kingdoms and inheriting kingdoms and celestial, terrestrial, telestial law, judgment, we get caught up into all these things. And the way I would

summarize these is we will in essence judge ourselves. These verses seem to be teaching that wonderful doctrine that Brad Wilcox frankly taught in his classic talk, "His Grace is Sufficient," his BYU speech where sometimes we have this view of God stopping us or making these judgments upon us and us begging God, as Brad says, "Please let me enter."

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 40:24

And it's going to be the other way around. It would be God saying, "Please accept my Son. Obey the ordinances. Live the Law so that you can enjoy these blessings." I mean, look at these. In verse 22, "He who was not able to abide the law of a celestial Kingdom cannot abide the celestial glory." Same in 23 for terrestrial, same for telestial. There are certain laws and conditions which are expected to receive this glory, this power, this capacity, these blessings.

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 41:00

And then if you even jump over to verse 32, "Even they who remained shall also be quickened, nevertheless, they shall return again to their own place." And look at this line. "To enjoy that which they are willing to receive." Because they were not willing to enjoy that which they might have received, in other words, the Lord's like, you will go to the kingdom of the law and the conditions where you are using your agency to choose to live and accept and abide by. And the only reason why you're not going to get other kingdoms and why I might not is because I am choosing to not enjoy that which is what I'm willing to receive. So in verse 33, verse 33 is not a Christmas verse. It's a judgment verse, where the Lord talks about I'm not going to give somebody something they don't want.

John Bytheway: 41:57

It reminds me of another kind of verse that sounds to me like it's saying the same thing. Mormon 9 verse 4, "Behold, I say unto you that you would be more miserable to dwell with the holy and just God under a consciousness of your filthiness before him than you would to dwell with the damn souls in hell." So, the idea that you'd be more miserable, saying, "I'm going to find a place where you're not miserable," and it's a place that you're going to go where you feel most comfortable. And when I teach that in Book of Mormon class, I reference 88:32. This is what you're willing to receive, because we're not willing to enjoy that which you might have received. They sound like parallel verses.

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 42:36

Yeah. And at verse 40, again, verse 40 is a great judgment, scripture. "Intelligence cleaveth unto intelligence, wisdom receiveth wisdom, truth embraceth truth, virtue loveth virtue, light cleaveth unto light." In other words, if you're a person of

intelligence, wisdom, truth, virtue, light, you're going to go to a kingdom of intelligence, virtue, wisdom, light truth, because those things love each other. And it's just a beautiful doctrine that the Lord will honor our agency where we will choose to live in the laws and the conditions and the kingdoms, which we are willing to receive.

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| Hank Smith: | 43:19 | This seems, Tony, like a little bit of an extension of section 76. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 43:24 | Yeah. In what way, Hank? |
| Hank Smith: | 43:26 | It feels like a little bit of an addendum. They received Section 76, it was Dr. Harper who said, "You and I, we love it," but the Saints back then were kind of like, "Whoa, wait, hold on." And so, maybe there was a little bit of a lag time where the Lord's like, "Well, we'll talk more about that a little bit later. I'm going to let you digest 76 for a little while before I tell you even more about the heavens." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 43:55 | Yeah. Yup. And you'll see this again. I keep teeing this up to talk about the School of the Prophets. But again, that seems to be what the Lord's going to do with the School of the Prophets. And what he's going to teach them about the temple is that the temple teaches us laws that there are certain laws and conditions by which celestial beings abide by and live by so that we can receive these blessings. |
| Hank Smith: | 44:21 | Because they want to. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 44:22 | Because they want to, because they choose to. |
| Hank Smith: | 44:25 | Yeah. I mean, look at verse 32. You go to your own place to enjoy that which they are willing to receive. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 44:35 | Yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | 44:35 | It's not about God saying, "Sorry. You're going there even though you don't want to go there." God's saying, "Where do you want to go? Where do you want to be?" |
| John Bytheway: | 44:43 | What law are you willing to live and that's where you'll be most comfortable. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 44:48 | And I'm positive there are people listening to this podcast who are worried about family members, who are worried about friends, loved ones who either have left or are not part of the |

Church. The God that I worship, the God of the restoration is a God like this that just says, "If people are of light and truth and virtue and goodness, all mortal factors, all things that have blocked and gotten in the way and issues will be resolved by a God who completely understands and is fair and is merciful and compassionate. And if people love truth, if they love goodness, if they love virtue, if they love light, they will go to those kingdoms of virtue, goodness, love, and light. I have no doubt about it."

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| John Bytheway: | 45:33 | Yeah. And this is a God who is our Father who loves his children and wants to give them all that he can if they're willing to receive it. Yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | 45:43 | There's a verse back that I don't want to miss yet, because we're going to turn the page here, that in Christianity, we always talk about the Second Coming of the Lord, the Second Coming of the Lord. But in verse 19, he seems to almost up the second coming of the Lord with another visitor, "For after I fulfilled the measure of his creation, meaning the earth, it shall be crowned with glory even with the presence of God the Father." Now that's new. That's totally different... I shouldn't say totally different but that seems to take the Second Coming to a whole new level of, yeah, the Second Coming, and then another coming following that. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 46:19 | Yeah. And I may be wrong in this. And so forgive me if my doctrines are off here, but the way I've always understood it is the Second Coming will be where Christ comes to rule and reign as king of kings and lord of lords. And he'll usher in the Millennium. But we're going to work through this millennial period to continue to help God's will be perfectly known and done and implemented on this earth. And it won't be till the end of the Millennium that this earth becomes celestialized and truly becomes the kingdom of God that the celestial kingdom crowned with the presence of God the Father, because those who inherit the celestial kingdom will be in his presence. And so, I understand it as Second Coming as Jesus works through the Millennium preparing the crown with the presence of God and Father. |
| Hank Smith: | 47:16 | Yeah. For Joseph Smith for this, what do we say, 27-year-old? |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 47:21 | Yup. |
| Hank Smith: | 47:21 | For him to expand even the Second Coming. Well, was it you? Tony, it was someone who said, "The audacity of this kid." |

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	47:30	Yeah, the audacity of this 27-year-old, unbelievable.
Hank Smith:	47:35	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	47:37	Then if you guys want to talk 41 to 44, planets, everything like that, 45, some beautiful line, "The earth rolls upon her wings," that sounds like something you should include in a love letter. I mean, that's a beautiful line. The sun gives us the light by day. And then he says, verse 47, all these are... Any man who has seen any or the least of these has seen God moving in his majesty and power, 40, he has seen him. There seems to be almost a tie here to the Lord's likening these kingdoms. If you look at the end of verse 43, here he seems to be likening them to planets. Verse 42, they have times and seasons are fixed. They have laws and revolutions.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	48:27	But a little tying of the first vision when in one of the accounts of the first vision and Joseph history is 1832 account, he seems to hint as Richard Bushman said that Joseph had a brush a little bit with not atheism necessarily but maybe questioning the existence of God. In his 1832 account, Joseph said, but when he looked at the moon, the stars, the earth, the creatures, the people, that the Spirit spoke to him that there is a great God, and that only a fool would proclaim that there is no God. This seems to be the Lord saying a similar thing like if, "You want to see God, just look around you, look at the beautiful light, law, the universe, planets, everything, testifying to you all things to note there is a God," another Book of Mormon tie in there.
John Bytheway:	49:24	Yeah, it's there. It's there. Alma 30:44 is footnote 47C where he says, "The planets which move in their regular motion, a witness there's a supreme creator."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	49:36	Yup. So, just another beautiful thing, he seems to shift though. We're going to talk kingdoms for a sec. He's going to give a parable in 51. "Behold I will liken these kingdoms." Now, is he talking planets or is he talking... I'll show you where he might be talking dispensations here. He's going to liken these kingdoms, which are either planets, different worlds or maybe they're different dispensations on this world, unto a man in a field.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	50:06	"And he sent forth his servants into the field to dig in the field. He said on the first, 'Go ye and labor in the field. In the first hour I'll come unto you and ye shall behold the joy of my countenance.'" Remember, back to the verses that teed off this revelation, "I will manifest myself to you. You are going to come

into my presence. You will see me. There will be another Comforter. You will know God. You will know Jesus.” So he says first-hour laborers, second, third, all the way in verse 55, and so forth to the 12th.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 50:39 | Verse 56, "And the Lord of the field went to the first in the first hour and tarried with him that hour and was made glad." And he does that from the first all the way in 59 to the last, 60, "Every man in his own order until his hour is finished." Sixty-one, "Therefore, unto this parable I will liken all these kingdoms, and the inhabitants thereof, every kingdom in its hour, and in its time, and in its season, even according to the decree which God hath made." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 51:09 | So this parable seems to be saying if we're talking about it in planets, other worlds, that Jesus himself manifested himself to all his people that they in their time enjoy his presence. Or if we're not going there, at minimum, every dispensation, the Lord manifests himself on this earth. And where I'm getting this dispensational one, jump over to verse 70, "Tarry ye, tarry ye in this place, and call a solemn assembly, even of those who are the first laborers in this last kingdom." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 51:50 | So right there, he likens this kingdom to this dispensation. That's where I'm getting a dispensational read of it. So we could maybe read it as in the parable, the Lord manifested himself to Adam and Eve, and he manifests himself to Lehi and Sariah and Abraham and Sarah. He's also manifesting himself to Joseph and Emma in this dispensation, and this round of the elders. You guys have all heard the parable of the laborers in the New Testament. And sometimes we liken that to people who are baptized, like some people who joined the Church early and then there's people who get baptized and joined the Church, everybody, that's an appropriate application. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 52:37 | But using Section 88, verse 70, the Lord just called us the "Last-hour laborers". That's what he just called us. So this is like a parable of dispensations. You and I are the 11th and 12th-hour laborers. You and I are coming in after Adam and Eve, and Abraham and Sarah, and Lehi and Sariah, and everybody else has done all this work for thousands and thousands of years, and we get a swoop up here in the dispensation of the fullness of times in the 11th hour and have all this tools and technology and establish the global church and kingdom and marching to heaven equally if Adam and Eve be an 11th-hour laborers. |

Hank Smith:	53:21	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	53:22	Let's have a little dispensational humility for everybody who's come before us that we are coming in as the last-hour laborers.
Hank Smith:	53:31	Oh, I can't tell you how fun it is in my New Testament class to flip that on my students. Because I say, "What's it like when someone didn't have to go to seminary for four years and they didn't have to serve it?" And they're like, "Yeah. See, that's not fair." And I'm like, "Wait, wait. What if you're on the other side of the equation? What if you're the last-hour workers? Are you sure it's not fair?" And I'm like, "Adam and Eve, they've been doing a lot of work for a long time. Abraham, Noah, they've been doing a lot of work for a long time. For me it seemed to be the ones that are coming to the party late." And then all of a sudden, it's, "No, it's fair."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	54:08	Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'll take equal pay to Abraham. Sure, please.
John Bytheway:	54:11	Yeah. Let's restate that then. So that parable can have a couple of applications when we come into the church, for those in our lifetimes, and dispensationally, that's really... What did you say? Dispensational humility?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	54:26	A little dispensational humility. We are standing on the shoulders of amazing women and men who have come to set us, teed us up for success for thousands and thousands of years. So those are just an example of just some of these awesome... As I said, heaven, what are we learning about heaven? But then there's going to be a major shift in this revelation about how do you and I therefore prepare ourselves for heaven?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	54:55	And this is where there's a shift to some practical stuff that's going to start centering in on a temple and a School of the Prophets. And to be frank, Hank, that's why when you said which one, I said 88. Because we've got a grasp of what the Lord is trying to do with the temple and with the School of the Prophets and the endowment here to grasp what's happening today with the temple. And the modern School of the Prophets and the modern endowment, it's so, so powerful as a whole.
Hank Smith:	55:27	I want to mention one thing that I've used in verse 40. And you can correct me if I'm taking this out of context. But when some of my students have come to me and said, "I want to find someone great to marry." They're all looking for Mister and Missus Perfect to marry. And I've always said this idea of if you

want to marry an intelligent, wise, someone who loves truth, someone who loves virtue, someone who loves light, then you have to be all those things, because intelligence cleaves to intelligence. It's attracted to it. Wisdom is attracted to wisdom. Truth embraces the truth. So, for anyone listening, who says, "Oh, I want to marry this type of person," wonderful. Of course, you do. I think that's great. Probably the best way is to be that person.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	56:21	Yeah. I mean that's Elder Bednar. Isn't it Elder Bednar who said, "Become the kind of person you want to date and marry?"
John Bytheway:	56:28	Stop trying to find the right one and focus on trying to become the right one, type of thing.
Hank Smith:	56:34	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	56:36	Verse 40 I like to call it the Greatest Judgment and Dating Scripture of all time.
Hank Smith:	56:42	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	56:42	Wait, wait. What verse?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	56:44	Verse 40, the light cleaveth the light.
Hank Smith:	56:46	My favorite dating scripture is Abinadi, "Touch me not or God shall smite thee." That's my favorite dating scripture for my daughter anyway.
John Bytheway:	56:56	Please join us for Part II of this podcast.

EPISODE 33 • PART II

Dr. Anthony Sweat



D&C 88

Hank Smith:	00:00:02	Welcome to Part II of this week's podcast. I'm excited you seem to enjoy this School the Prophets. You may have mentioned it before in the podcast. I can't remember...
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:00:14	I don't know if I knew or not. I maybe enjoy it so much because like everything, everything we write is autobiography really and John, you mentioned <i>The Holy Invitation</i> . I wrote that book because I sensed a large number of young people were not grasping the endowment as you could take the average Latter-day Saint and say, "In one sentence, give me the purpose of baptism," and they could do it pretty well. In one sentence, give me the purpose of the sacrament, they could summarize it well. In one sentence, even give me the purpose of an eternal marriage and they could summarize it well, but if you say, "In one sentence, give me the purpose of the endowment," the answers start to become nebulous and they shift, and they're not very clean and they hem and they haw.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:01:07	They come with general answers like, "Oh, it's a gift," and you say, "A gift of what?" They'll say, "A gift of knowledge." "Well, a gift of knowledge of what?" "A gift of knowledge of God." "For what?" They just don't know. One of the reasons why I'm so passionate about this is because I actually think Section 88 unlocks the endowment for us.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:01:34	I think it gives us a key to understand what the holy temple is trying to do and what the endowment is all about, which is why I wrote that book, <i>The Holy Invitation</i> because at this time in church history is where this invitation is extended, and understand that we have to back up a little bit to the June 1831 conference of the church that you've talked about it in your podcast, where the Lord says, "Hey, I want everybody to gather to Ohio and in section 38, if you will gather to Ohio, I will endow you with power from on high," that is Section 38, verse 32. When they get to the Ohio in the summer of 1831 at the June 1831 conference, they get there to receive an endowment.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:02:27	The first endowment in this dispensation was not in the Kirtland Temple, it was not in the Nauvoo Temple. The first endowment was on the Isaac Morley Farmhouse in ... right outside of

Kirtland, Ohio in a little log cabin, where about 60 men had gathered together, in the words of John Corrill, "That they might receive an endowment." I would say that a broader definition of endowment, "Is to receive a power, or a capacity." The question is what great power and capacity was God trying to give these elders who gathered on the Morley Farm in June of 1831? Well, he was trying to give them the great power and capacity of ancient high priests, people like Enoch and Melchizedek and like Isaiah and like the brother of Jared.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:03:23 | This is where Joseph's translation of the Bible ties in. Joseph had been translating in Genesis 14. Joseph learned about great high priests who could divide the seas and put it defiance to the armies of nations, and break apart mountains. He learned he had translated about Enoch, and he had learned that Melchizedek was a great high priest. What Joseph wanted to do at the June 1831 Conference is give these elders, help them become high priests. Now when I say high priest, we think ecclesiastically in the Church. We think of stake presidents and bishops, and after the June 1831 Conference, Joseph will start to use high priests to preside, but the theological line, the doctrinal line finds its fruition in the temple today. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:04:18 | How do I make people get power and capacity to become great high priests, and then Joseph will extend it to women and priestesses unto God. That is what's happening at the June 1831 Conference, and Joseph promises them that... Let me read. Joseph says at the June 1831 Conference, "Not three days should pass away before some should see the Savior face to face." Levi Hancock said at the June 1831 Conference, Joseph simply promised them, "You shall see the Lord at this conference." I mean you guys, could you imagine being invited to a conference, promising that within three days if you live pure enough and sanctified enough, that you'll have the power and capacity to rend the veil and see God face to face?" |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:05:13 | I mean that's what's happening at the June 1831 conference, and some of them do. Harvey Whitlock, Lyman White, they leave recollections that at the June 1831 Conference, they did experience power. They did have the heavens parted. Some of them did say that they saw God. Most of them failed however at it, like I'm sure you and I would if we were at that conference. At least I know I would, and the reason why I'm setting all this up is because this is what Joseph and the Lord through his prophet is going to work on. You guys grasp this if I can try to say it clearly. |

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:05:57	How do I create a nation of priests and priestesses who have power in their life, heavenly power, who can understand God, know God, know His ways, know His will, that they can bring about His purposes, that they can perform miracles, that they can build the kingdom? How do I create those kinds of women and men, and that is what the School of the Prophets is going to try to help instigate that is going to be started in Section 88. Did I make that connection clear enough about what I think there?
Hank Smith:	00:06:32	Yeah, I think so and not only how do I make them, how do I get them to choose it, right? [Crosstalk 00:06:38] because righteousness isn't righteousness if it's forced.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:06:42	Exactly.
Hank Smith:	00:06:43	I've got to persuade you to choose this.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:06:47	Let me backup just a little bit more, go to Section 67 of your Doctrine and Covenants because this will make a tie into Section 88. We often only read Section 67 in the context of publishing the Book of Commandments. If you look at the heading of Section 67, this is given in November of 1831, so what, five months have passed since the June 1831 Conference? Largely, these are the same group of elders who were trying to receive the power and capacity of great high priests endowment at the June 1831 Conference. Go to Section 67, it's now November of 31. Look at verse three.
John Bytheway:	00:07:28	Mm-hmm (affirmative), the blessing which was offered, right?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:07:30	He endeavored to receive the blessing which was offered unto you. What blessing was offered? It was the blessing of endowment. It was the blessing of knowing God, having the heavens opened, having his mysteries revealed, "But verily I say unto you, there were fears in your hearts and verily, this is the reason you did not receive." Now jump over to verse 10 in Section 67, "And again, verily I say unto you that it is your privilege and a promise I give unto you." I would highlight that line because you're going to see it in Section 88. "A promise I give unto you that have been ordained unto this ministry.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:08:06	Their ordination was to become great high priests, "That inasmuch as you strip yourselves from jealousies and fears and humble yourselves before me for you are not sufficiently humble. The veil shall be rent, and you shall see me and know that I am, not with the carnal neither natural mind, but with the

spiritual..." You cannot be carnal and have endowment in your life, have great power and capacity. Verse 12, "A natural man cannot abide the presence of God." Verse 13, "You are not able to abide the presence of God now, neither the ministering of angels, wherefore continue in patience until you are perfected, until you're ready." You've got to work at this.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:08:51 | "Let not your minds turn back and when ye are worthy in my own due time, ye shall see and know that which was conferred upon you by the hands of my servant Joseph Smith, Jr. Amen." That which was conferred upon them was to become great high priests and to have the power and capacity of endowment. Isn't that awesome, that context? Now flip, now go to Section 88 with that context. As you guys are flipping there, Joseph says this in October of 1831, "Could we all come together with one heart and one mind in perfect faith, the veil might as well be rent today as next week, or any other time. If we will but cleanse ourselves and covenant before God, it is our privilege." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:09:48 | You got to be pure. You have to be covenant people in order to have the endowment happen. Now, go to Section 88 and look at the fruition of this. Go to verse 68. When you walk into schools and they have a motto that's up there, like, "So-and-so elementary, our mission statement is to..." Well, I like to call verse 68 the mission statement or the motto for the School of the Prophets. Verse 68, "Therefore, sanctify yourselves and in other words, become more pure and clean and holy that your minds become single to God." Then look at this, "And the days will come that you shall see him for he will unveil his face unto you, and it shall be in his own time and in his own way and according to his own will." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:10:47 | Now I want to make a caveat, there are many ways that God manifests himself to us. This doesn't have to be a literal physical appearance, but the promise is there that God will unveil himself to you. Now look at 69, "Remember the great and last promise which I have made unto you." He ties in that promise. You have to tie in Section 67 verse three there, and you have to tie in the June 1831 Conference to understand the great promise. If I could put in my own language, the great and last promise is the promise that you can be endowed with high priestly heavenly power in your life to come into the presence of God, to know him, to know his will, to have revelation, to be guided, and to be one with him, and to receive a fullness of his blessings, that's the promise. |

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:11:40	Do you see why I'm geeking out about this? Do you see why I get so excited about it?
Hank Smith:	00:11:44	Yes, awesome. Thank you so much.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:11:47	Then also flip over to verse 74 and 75, right in the middle 74. "Sanctify yourselves," I'm in the middle of 74. "Sanctify yourselves, purify your hearts, cleanse your hands and your feet before me that I may make you clean, that I may testify unto your father and your God and my God, that ye are clean from the blood of this wicked generation, that I may fulfill this promise, this great and last promise." Again as Joseph said, we've got to be clean before God and we've got a covenant with God. I know that we're used to talking about the School of the Prophets almost like a glorified missionary training center.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:12:29	I think that's an appropriate way to look at it, but a higher way to look at it is that God is trying... He's going to make a School of Prophets, a school of Melchizedek's and Enoch's and Noah's and Adams, a school of Moses's that can have the same revelatory power and capacity and miracles in their life, and to try to get them to achieve this. Then he's going to lay out patterns of living, or an order of living so that you can live this ancient high priestly order in your life. It's just awesome to me to see it.
John Bytheway:	00:13:11	Hey Tony, I know my own kids. When we get to verse 69, they're going to say, "Does God not want us to laugh, right?" "Your excess of laughter far from you." Can you clarify what that means? There's a great cross-reference to 1 Peter 4, where Peter is talking about, "You used to live this way, I want you to be a saint." He says when you walk in lasciviousness, lust, excess of wine, revelings and abominable idolatries, that's different than having a laugh.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:13:48	No, I agree. I mean you guys kick off this podcast with we love to learn, we love to laugh.
John Bytheway:	00:13:52	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:13:54	You have to remember in context here, the Lord is trying to get rid of like-mindedness, a flippant, a low, a base, a telestial way of living, a way that's like just crude, crass, careless, light about things that shouldn't be made light of, or we all know that there are times when things get really sacred, for example. There's just a general heavenly sense that it's not the right time to be flippant and jokey. I think the Lord seems to be saying have an

		appropriate humor in an appropriate way at the appropriate time. It's not saying don't enjoy life and have a good sense of humor. I think that is of God, but it's in the right way and the right time.
John Bytheway:	00:14:42	Well, you just made a little sermon there Tony, crude, crass, and careless. I was like, "Hey, I..."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:14:49	Hey, triple C, baby.
John Bytheway:	00:14:50	Yeah, crude, crass, and careless, I'm going to use that because that's humor that has a bad aftertaste I call it. Crude, crass, and careless. Sorry John, what were you going to say?
John Bytheway:	00:15:05	No, I think that I have been and I bet you have too Hank. I've been to, and probably you too Tony, you've been at a youth conference or something. I remember one time, I will never forget it. I don't even remember who was speaking. It was the last talk, a testimony meeting, and there was a wonderful spirit in the chapel. They sat down and nobody wanted to leave. The crazy thing that happened was somebody gave the thumbs up to the people in the gymnasium to start the dance and all of the sudden in the gym, we started hearing the, "Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom." You could see a pained look on the teenagers in the room as it was just dances aren't evil, but it was not the same spirit that was in the chapel.
John Bytheway:	00:15:58	There's what you said about just a time and a place and appropriate. I stayed in the chapel with a bunch of kids that just wanted to stay in there and talk about wonderful things. I was delighted to miss the dance and to stay with them. I bet you've both seen that sort of thing happen, where a different spirit just came and that's where you would not want the excess of laughter. We just sat and talked about wonderful things in the chapel, and it was the best part of the youth conference was not the dance.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:16:30	I loved that.
John Bytheway:	00:16:31	It was that we just sat there on the pews and talked about the gospel and our testimonies for hours.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:16:38	One time, when I was young in my seminary-teaching days, when I was learning how to become an educator, one of the harshest rebukes I received from a supervisor, and I'm glad he did, was at the end of a class, he said to me. He said, "Sweat,

you know what, you don't know why your class is missing a certain level of power," and I said, "Why?" He goes, "Because you're too consistently trying to be funny the whole time." Then he said, "You're too light, and you're treating some sacred things too flippantly and too carelessly," and that rebuke stung. I'm going to be honest with you, I bristled a little bit, but as I reflected on it over the next number of days, I found that he was right. Don't get me wrong, again this is the balance.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:17:29 | Have fun, enjoy life, have appropriate humor, but there's the right time and there's the right place. One time Joseph himself wrote a letter and he said, "Our solemn assemblies..." I mean that this section tells them to call a solemn assembly, and that very word means it's time to get serious, it's time to get sacred. Joseph said, "Sometimes our solemn assemblies have been too light, too vain, and too trifling," were the words that Joseph used in the context of that. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:18:03 | I remember President Hinckley saying, "In all of living, have much fun and laughter," right? Remember he said that and with both of you, I have laughed. Just in our conversations, I have laughed and I felt so good about that because it's never been crude, crass, or careless and it's never been in a setting where we needed to bring our minds into a spiritual focus. It's been just as we go out to dinner, and you can feel the spirit of friendship, and there's a purity there. Yeah, I thought we'd catch that verse just real quick Tony, just making sure that oh, well... |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:18:49 | I'm glad you did. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:18:50 | Yeah, all laughter is bad. Excess of laughter is the idea of yeah, don't take anything seriously. I'm really going to use this crude, crass, and careless. I'm going to use this a lot. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:19:01 | You go buddy. |
| John Bytheway: | 00:19:02 | I remember reading something. I think it was in the Stephen Robinson and Dean Garrett commentary, where they pointed out excessive laughter here, all laughter in this same section in verse 21, but this is talking about more of now you're in the temple, "Organize a house of..." and it's the idea of a time and a place. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:19:24 | Of course. |

John Bytheway:	00:19:24	I really appreciate something Truman Madsen did once where he talked about differentiating light-heartedness from light-mindedness, and that was helpful as well. All three of us know that I've used humor in my classes sometimes as a learning hook, but then there are times when it would be inappropriate to use it, where there is genuine interest in a wonderful topic, you don't need it. You don't need it because people are locked in, and they're listening and the spirits there, and then it wouldn't be right.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:19:57	Yep.
John Bytheway:	00:20:00	I think we've all experienced that.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:20:03	Yeah, and I'll tie into this, you could add verse 121 there. Hank, you read verse...
Hank Smith:	00:20:10	That's 69.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:20:14	You had 69. Jump over from... and I'll come back to these 121, "Cease from all your light speeches."
John Bytheway:	00:20:21	It's all laughter there, yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:20:23	All laughter in context of this, "Your lustful desires, your pride, your light-mindedness, your wicked doings." He seems to be classifying that type of laughter and inappropriate humor there. Both of you are masters of this thought, of the right type of humor, of humor that just helps us enjoy life and the beauties of it and the follies of it, but then balancing that with keep, keeping holy things holy at the right time and place.
John Bytheway:	00:20:53	Oh, I hope so or I'm in so much trouble.
Hank Smith:	00:20:56	Me too.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:20:59	Okay, verse 117 is the shift, "Verily I say unto you my friends, call your solemn assembly." Verse 119, "So the sacred..." I want you to call a sacred meeting, organize yourself in 119, prepare every needful thing, and establish a house, even a house of prayer, a house of fasting, a house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God. That is the command there. The Lord says, "All right, the Morley Farm was great, that little school house, but if we're going to endow people, I want solemn places, solemn rooms, solemn assemblies in a house of

God." Listen to this letter, back to the letter that Joseph writes to WW Phelps, just on January 11th a few weeks after this.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:21:51 | He writes, WW Phelps, "The Lord commanded us in Kirtland to build a house of God and establish a school for the prophets. This is the word of the Lord unto us," and then just listen to Joseph's humility, "And we must yea the Lord helping us, we will obey as on conditions of our obedience. He has promised us great things, yea even a visit from the heavens to honor us with his presence. We greatly fear before the Lord, lest we should fail of this great honor, which our master proposes to confer upon us. We are seeking for humility and great faith, lest we be ashamed in his presence." That's the context, so let me just try to say this clearly. The modern-day School of the Prophets is the holy temple. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:22:46 | That is where the Lord calls us to Solemn Assemblies, and he tries to teach us patterns and orders and celestial laws and ways of living to achieve the power of endowment in our life. Do not confuse the presentation of the endowment with the power of endowment. The presentation of the endowment is a ceremony. It's a dress rehearsal. It's a ritual trying to teach concepts, so that we can achieve endowment in our lives. Don't confuse the two. There's a difference between the presentation and the power. In these early years in Kirtland, God is trying to communicate how to get the power of God in your life, how to live a celestial way to receive a fullness of his blessings. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:23:38 | Later in Nauvoo, all these concepts will get packaged into a presentation, but those are two different things. I would be so bold as to say you can participate in the ceremony of the endowment and never be endowed with power in your life. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:23:59 | Interesting. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:24:00 | How do we get endowed with power? Well, notice what the Lord starts laying out. How do we achieve the great promise to become great high priests and priestesses? See if this doesn't ring a bell to people. Go to verse 121, "Get rid of your light speeches, your laughter will be our time..." Get rid of light speech and inappropriate laughter, get rid of all your lustful desires. What do we call the law in the Church that tries to get you and I to control our lustful desires? We call that the Law of chastity. Live the Law of chastity, get rid of your pride and light-mindedness, get rid of all your wicked doings. In other words, learn how to be obedient. |

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:24:45	Look at verse 123, "See that ye love one another, cease to be covetous, learn to impart to one another as the gospel requires." What do we call the law in the Church that tries you and I to love our neighbor as ourselves and to impart what we've been given? That's called the Law of Consecration. I mean the Lord... and then we can keep going. Look at verse 138, "Don't receive anybody into this school, unless they're clean from the blood of this generation. How do we get clean from the blood of this generation? Well, we get received by the ordinance of the washing of the feet, for unto this end was the ordinance of the washing of the feet instituted." Joseph will when the school is organized.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:25:33	He will wash the member's feet in remembrance of how the Savior washed his apostle's feet, but they will then later extend this washing into a whole body washing. When the Kirtland temple will be built in 1836, they will wash their entire bodies as well. You guys. look at this pattern.
John Bytheway:	00:25:58	Wow.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:26:00	You want to come into the presence of the Lord. You want to get his power in your life. You want him to unveil his face, give you his mysteries, reveal himself. Well, so you call a solemn assembly in a holy temple. You commit to getting rid of inappropriate speech and like-mindedness. You covenant to live the law of obedience, the law of chastity and the law of consecration, and you try to become clean from the blood of this generation through a ceremonial washing that will induct you, or initiate you into this school of future high priests and priestesses. This is laying the foundation for the holy temple today. Sometimes I hear people say, "If you want to understand the endowment, study the Old Testament."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:26:51	I think that can help, but if I would say, "If you want to understand the endowment, study the Doctrine and Covenants because in the pages of the doctrine and covenants, the Lord reveals the purposes and procedures of the endowment bit by bit, line upon line, and Section 88 is a major one of those."
John Bytheway:	00:27:09	That's awesome.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:27:11	Isn't that so cool to see that?
John Bytheway:	00:27:14	It's right there. I mean yeah, but I didn't see it until you started pointing out those phrases.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:27:23	I want to say too when we read verse 119, where it says, "Establish a house, even a house of order." We sometimes interpret that as a house of organization, or a house of neatness. I want to give another definition. That's appropriate, but another definition is a house of a type of person. All of you Harry Potter fans out there, you know about Harry Potter and the Order of Phoenix. Meaning, an order is also a select group of individuals, or a type of person. The Lord is not only going to establish a house that has order. He's going to establish a house to institute and order, and the order that he wants to institute is what Joseph Smith calls the Order of the Son of God, or the Order of Melchizedek.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:28:16	It's the Order of Great High Priest. Again back to June 1831, I want to make you great high priests like Melchizedek. I'm going to initiate you into the Order of Melchizedek or the Order of the Son of God. When you go to the holy temple today, you are going to be washed and anointed ceremonially, sacredly, appropriately, it's chaste, and it's solemn and it's sacred, but you're going to be initiated to say you can become part of this order. You are then through a metaphor, you're going to enter a solemn meeting, a solemn assembly in a sacred temple, and you're going to be taught laws and patterns and ways of living that are Christ-like. The Church has published these five major laws.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:29:09	You can read them on temples.churchofjesuschrist.org . You can also read them in the handbook of instructions under section 28 I believe. Five major laws of celestial living; obedience, sacrifice, the higher law of the gospel, Jesus' higher teachings as embodied in the Sermon on the Mount, the Law of Chastity, and the Law of consecration. When you become endowed, the Lord is trying to teach you... when you go through the ceremony, he's trying to say, "To the degree that you can learn to pattern your life after these laws is the degree that you're going to learn to get the power of God in your life, and you'll grow in light and you'll grow in truth. You will metaphorically part veils and you will watch the plan of salvation be unfolded unto you like prophets have, and you will come into my presence."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:30:04	It's all section 88, it's all School of the Prophets.
Hank Smith:	00:30:09	Mm-hmm (affirmative). As you are speaking, I remember when the veil is parted for the Brother of Jared, Elder Holland spoke on that moment and I think it ties it well in here. He said, "It was declared when the Brother of Jared did that ordinary people

with ordinary problems..." He said, "This is a man whose once best ideas were rocks, a man who didn't even have a typical name, a man who forgot to pray and for once for all time, it was declared that ordinary people with ordinary problems can rend the veil."

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:30:49 | Yeah, I love it. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:30:49 | It seems like that's what the Lord is saying here in 88. "I want you here." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:30:54 | That is what he's saying and again, back to these laws that Section 88 sets up, you and I do not have to be perfect. We don't have to be otherworldly. We can be ordinary as you said Hank. The question is what do we love? What do we strive for? What do we want? Well, I want to be chaste, I want to be obedient, I want to sacrifice. I want to be consecrated, and I'm going to continue to work with that and strive for those things in my life. Hopefully, we all do who are listening to this podcast. I am convinced that as you strive and desire, God will work miracles through you. He'll unveil his face to you in his own way and his own time. He will manifest himself. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:31:44 | He'll give you mysteries. Meaning, you'll understand God, you'll understand his purposes, his ways. You'll get power in your life to perform miracles. I just know that's true. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:31:56 | I like also in these verses Tony and then John I'll hand it over to you, I like also in these verses Tony, the idea that we need each other, right? He says in 118, "As all have not faith, seek ye diligently and teach one another." He says that again in 122, "Appoint among yourselves a teacher. Don't let everybody speak at once, speak one at a time that you all may be edified out of all." Verse 123, "See that you love one another, close yourselves in the bond of charity." I don't know about you both, but as this is recorded, we're just coming out of COVID, getting back to church. For me personally, it was like drinking fresh water, being back with my ward family. |
| John Bytheway: | 00:32:53 | When I'm having in-person classes, I actually put up verse 122, this is how we're going to do class. I've been appointed your teacher, but I'd like everybody to have a chance to speak and that we all want to edify each other. I love 122, but I was going to ask, I don't want to unfairly characterize other faiths or denominations, but I just think it's so wonderful part for me, part of my testimony is this idea that the temple was so |

important in the New Testament. Now in the Restoration, it's here's the temple. Then there's another and another, and we don't even build the one in Missouri, but keep getting kicked out and Brigham Young comes into the valley first day, puts his cane down and says, "Here, we build the temple."

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| John Bytheway: | 00:33:48 | Well, the prop guy put a stick and a rock there for Wilford Woodruff to... if you're watching the movie <i>Mountain of the Lord</i> , it's really convenient. He just, "Oh, here's some and kind of..." |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:33:58 | He's like, "Oh, here it is, let me just whack that in." |
| John Bytheway: | 00:34:00 | Yeah, he marks the spot, but I love the idea as part of the Restoration what happened to temples, and I hope I'm not being unfair, but look at how important temples are in the restoration. The other thing I was going to add is I love Joseph Smith's statement that why did the Lord command us to gather the Jews. I think he said the Jews, or the house of Israel in any age of the world, and what was the purpose? To build a temple because there are certain things that God wants to give us, I'm paraphrasing, that have to be built in a house for that purpose. Am I getting that right? |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:34:38 | Yeah, yep and I just thought of President Nelson's quote, "The temple is the object of every activity, every lesson, every progressive step in the church. All our efforts in the church lead to the holy temple." From the beginning, the temple was central and it's, to me, one of the signs of the fruits of the Restoration of the Church is that the temple is central. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:35:04 | Yeah, and Tony, I can hear a student asking me, "I thought Christ was central." If you look closely enough, if you're careful, the Savior is throughout your endowment, right? |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:35:22 | Oh, yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:35:22 | He's throughout the temple. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:35:24 | The temple is trying to teach you how to come unto Christ and be perfected in him to Moroni 10. It is trying to say live these celestial laws and ways and receive these ordinances, and bind yourself and take his name upon you. As Elder Bednar said, "In the temple, you more fully and completely take upon you the name of Christ. Baptism points you to the temple. Our Savior is in and through every aspect, down to the clothing, down to the |

		light, down to the rooms, down to the signs, the sacred symbols..."
Hank Smith:	00:36:08	The veil itself.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:36:09	The veil. Christ is, we are trying to come unto Christ and the temple is the house that allows us to put His name upon us fully.
Hank Smith:	00:36:21	Yeah. I don't think it would be overstating to say if you want to come unto Christ as closely as possible as you can in this life, the temple is the way to do it.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:36:35	Yeah. Amen to that, amen. I mean I'm back to coming into Christ, I got to share with you just a little bit about what happens when they organize this. By the way, we get the name School of the Prophets from verse [crosstalk 00:36:52] myself.
Hank Smith:	00:36:54	127.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:36:54	There it is.
Hank Smith:	00:36:55	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:36:56	127, the order of the house prepared for the presidency of the School of the Prophet. This is that January 3rd revelation. Okay, I just told you to call us all to assemble and organize yourself together, let me give you some instructions. They're going to call it the School of the Prophets, and then here's a fun thing. In verse 130, when the teacher shows up first, he needs to be first. You got to be early, be on time, teacher. Verse 131, I want him to pray and offer himself up to God, but then verse 132, "When any shall come in after him, let the teacher arise and with uplifted hands to heaven." Joseph Smith will teach by the way and Zebedee Coltrin and others will leave records of this, he teaches the School of the Prophets to pray with uplifted hands.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:37:45	As a matter of fact, verse 120, "That your incomings may be in the name of the Lord, that your outgoings may be in the name of the Lord, that all your salutations may be in the name of the Lord with uplifted hands to the Most High." When anybody came to the school, there was a worthiness check. Let me jump to 132, "And when any shall come in after him, let the teacher arise, and with uplifted hands to heaven, yea, even directly, salute his brother or brethren with these words: Art thou a brother or brethren?"

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:38:21	I salute you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, in token of remembrance of the everlasting covenant, in which covenant I receive you to fellowship, in a determination that is fixed, immovable, and unchangeable, to be your friend and brother through the grace of God in the bonds of love, to walk in all the commandments of God blameless, in thanksgiving, forever and ever. Amen. And he that is found unworthy of this salutation shall not have place among you; for ye shall not suffer that mine house shall be polluted by them." The reason I want to read this is from the very beginning, the Lord is establishing worthiness requirements to enter the School of the Prophets or enter what I would call the modern-day School of the Prophets of the temple today.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:39:07	It's a covenant based that you are willing to live the commandments, to love each other to this covenant-based living.
Hank Smith:	00:39:19	Tony, I can hear the idea of like there has to be good feelings between everyone in this...
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:39:26	Exactly.
Hank Smith:	00:39:27	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:39:27	There's got to be good feelings between people. You've got to be each other's brothers and sisters, and be in harmony with each other. "And he that cometh in and is faithful before me," I'm in 135, "and is a brother, or if they be brethren, they shall salute the president or the teacher with uplifted hands to heaven, and this same prayer and covenant, or by saying Amen, in token of the same." There is also this feeling that you need to be in harmony with each other. I don't want to say more than I can, but there are sometimes those who try to say Joseph Smith just ripped off the temple endowment from freemasonry, for example. While there is an undoubted overlap between aspects of freemasonry and the presentation of the endowment, again those are two different things: endowment and presentation of the endowment.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:40:24	Again, those are two different things. Endowment and presentation of the endowment. The endowment has nothing to do with masonry. Now, the presentation, how these concepts are presented, there is overlap and there is connection, but Joseph is learning about the power of endowment, the covenants of endowment, the concepts of endowment, the

principles of it long before he ever becomes a mason, long before he ever establishes the ceremony. He's learning about a line upon line, precept upon precept and this is evidence of that.

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| Hank Smith: | 00:41:00 | This is almost a decade before. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:41:03 | This is almost a decade before he does the presentation of the endowment in Nauvoo. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:41:08 | Yeah. The Lord's already and this isn't the first time it's even been mentioned, right? You... |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:41:14 | No, it started quite back in June of 1831 and sometime in '29 to '30, Joseph visits with Michael or Adam on the banks of the Susquehanna and receives keys to detect true messengers of God from false ones. Joseph is learning principles of truth and error, light and darkness coming into Christ, coming into God, living celestial ways, line upon line, precept upon precept, all trying to help us be endowed with power. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:41:43 | He even hints it in 137 that this School of the Prophets will be a tabernacle of the holy spirit to your edification, the tabernacle of the Old Testament is a temple. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:41:57 | I love it. I love it, and then I've got to read this story. One of the things I love about these early Saints is they are so obedient. They get this revelation in December and the first week of January. Joseph writes to WW Phelps on January 11th, and then at the end of January, they start the School of the Prophets. Within a month, they've got the school going. They are so obedient, they meet in the Newel K. Whitney Store. You guys have both been there many times. They meet in that upper little room, a dozen or so people. |
| John Bytheway: | 00:42:35 | It's not very big. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:42:36 | It's not very big. |
| John Bytheway: | 00:42:37 | It's like, "How did you get that many people in there?" |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:42:40 | I know. Orson Hyde is appointed to be a teacher, one of the most sacred ones on one of the first days as I mentioned Joseph washes their feet. Frederick G. Williams washes Joseph's feet as a sign that he is committed to be Joseph's friend and brother. They speak in tongues. The Lord pours out his spirit upon them, |

and then let me read you this from Zebedee Coltrin. It's a later recollection of Zebedee Coltrin, but he was there. Listen to what he says. "At one of these meetings after the organization of the school, the school being organized on the 23rd of January 1833. When we were all together, Joseph having given instructions and while engaged in silent prayer, kneeling with our hands uplifted, each one praying in silence.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:43:32 | No one whispered above his breath. A personage walked through the room from east to west and Joseph asked if we saw him. I saw him and I suppose the others did, and Joseph answered, 'That is Jesus, the son of God, our Elder Brother.' Afterward, Joseph told us to resume our former position in prayer which we did. Another person came through. He was surrounded with a flame of fire. I experienced a sensation that might destroy the tabernacle as it was consuming fire of great brightness. The prophet Joseph said, 'This was the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.' Then Zebedee Coltrin says, 'I saw Him.' The prophet then said, 'Brethren, now you are prepared to be the apostles of Jesus Christ for you have seen both the Father and the Son.'" Powerful stuff. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:44:26 | Oh man. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:44:28 | Powerful stuff. That's right there in that Newel K. Whitney Store and... |
| Hank Smith: | 00:44:35 | That tiny little room. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:44:36 | There in that quote, Zebedee Coltrin says, "You're now prepared to be apostles," that could hint towards the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. Zebedee Coltrin is never a member of the Quorum of the Twelve, but it can also hint to a little apostle. Meaning, why do we want our missionaries to be endowed before they go out into the world? Because again, we want our missionaries to be part of this sacred order. We want our missionaries to have Christ's name upon them. We want our missionaries to be promised to become great high priests and priestesses. We especially want our missionaries to know God's purposes, his patterns, his ways, his order that help people come unto Christ and be perfected. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:45:25 | They want people to metaphorically know how to come into the presence of God and learn of him through things like obedience and sacrifice and consecration and chastity, so that then they can go out and represent God to the world. They can knock on |

someone's door or message them or Zoom them or face chat them or FaceTime them and say, "I know God. I know His purposes. I know His ways. I know His patterns. The holy temple has taught them to me, and that will give them power and I'll help them lead other people to the temple to gain power in their life." It's so clear to me, and that's why it just pains me.

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 00:46:17 Sorry, I shouldn't get emotional. It pains me when for various reasons, people can't see this in the house of the Lord. We need to be better as parents, as teachers, as leaders. We need to understand the temple better. We need to then teach our children better, so that then our children can come to the temple and find this power in their life and find the meaning in the temple. Otherwise, they do miss it and they do struggle with the temple. They do struggle sometimes with the endowment because we've never taught them these fundamental central purposes of what the holy temple is trying to do.

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 00:47:04 I just apologize for being emotional there, but just for me, I have found so much meaning in studying these revelations from Joseph Smith and taking them to the temple and having aha moments to go, "I see it. I see what the endowment is trying to do through symbol and ceremony and allegory of how it's trying to teach me these things." I just hope we can prepare people as we're recording this, the Church just announced they're rolling into Phase 3 of temples opening back up. I hope we have a people that go back to the temple not only excited to be back in the holy house, but excited to grasp what the endowment is trying to do as they participate in the modern day School of the Prophets today.

Hank Smith: 00:47:56 Oh. Yeah, it reminded me of our discussion with Brother Mike Wilcox, where's your heart right? Who has your heart? Because if the Lord has your heart, you're going to want to be in that temple.

John Bytheway: 00:48:15 Tony, what you said, what do we love, what do we strive, did you say what do we chase? I thought oh, yeah, what are we going after...

Dr. Anthony Swe...: 00:48:24 Sounds right, what are we going after? Yeah, where is our heart?

John Bytheway: 00:48:27 Yeah.

Hank Smith: 00:48:28 I wanted to mention one thing as an insight, and then John I'll hand it over to you. Oftentimes, you hear in the temple and you

hear it here in Section 88, the idea of becoming clean from the blood of this generation. I was sitting in a meeting once where Dr. Stephen Covey who has since passed away was teaching from the scriptures. He talked about in there that Joseph Smith long before anyone else has the idea of DNA passing on weaknesses and difficulties that we inherit from our grandparents and our parents, and how the temple can allow us to even cleanse ourselves, or give us power to overcome our own DNA to be cleansed from the blood of this generation. That stuck with me.

John Bytheway:	00:49:25	Interesting.
Hank Smith:	00:49:25	It stuck with me for so long, the blood and sins of this generation.
John Bytheway:	00:49:29	Interesting.
Hank Smith:	00:49:29	Right?
John Bytheway:	00:49:30	Tony, I just thought it would be cool if you mentioned that we can ask people to give me in a sentence or two what's the purpose of baptism, what's the purpose of sacrament. After all of this, can we ask you to give us Tony's... put the endowment in a couple of sentences.
Dr. Anthony Swe....:	00:49:49	Here's my one sentence summary. It's the power and capacity to come into the presence of God and receive a fullness of his blessings, period. That's what the endowment is trying to do. It's the power and capacity to come into the presence of God and receive a fullness of his blessings.
John Bytheway:	00:50:13	When I teach the Tower of Babel, I love to tell my students I might even be right, but that it's like a counterfeit temple. It's we're going to force our way into God's presence on our terms yeah and Babel means "god's gate." That was their attempt to get Nimrod the hunter to hunt down God, and the real temple though is here's how God is inviting us in his presence on his terms.
Dr. Anthony Swe....:	00:50:46	I like that, John because the Tower of Babel is trying to build a tower to get to God, and we sometimes look at the drawings and illustrations of this big circular stairway trying to get no, that the tower that gets us to God is a temple. I can understand if they're literally trying to build a scaffolding stairway up into the heavens, God would just laugh at that and say, "Well, that'll

collapse after five storeys," but if we read the Tower of Babel as a temple, the moment someone starts to say, "I'm going to subvert and pervert the laws and ordinances of exaltation and I'm not going to abide by the law that is established for celestial ways of living to come into God's presence. God has no tolerance for that," I can see him getting really upset over that.

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| Hank Smith: | 00:51:37 | Right. Not only am I not going to live it, I'm going to teach others to not live it. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:51:41 | Yeah, yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:51:42 | Right? I'm going to take them with me. Tony once again, you've opened our eyes to these another revelation. I would encourage anyone who is just getting started with the podcast, to go back to our very first episode on Section 1 when we had no clue what we were doing, right John? I don't know if we do yet, but we were throwing this together, and Tony just knocked it out of the park for us. Then back to our episode on Section 29 with Tony, so please go back to those. Tony bears testimony twice in those episodes in just powerful, powerful terms. At the end of this episode Tony, let's talk about Tony Sweat's view of Joseph Smith, and what he has done. Tell me about him. What have you learned about him? What do you think about Joseph Smith and the Restoration? |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:52:48 | I appreciate you saying that Hank. I can't remember if the last time was on your podcast, I think I quoted Richard Bushman who says, "A religion that works must be taken seriously." |
| Hank Smith: | 00:53:00 | Yes. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:53:00 | I love that line, and I talked about one of the reasons why I love the restoration is because it works for me. It helps bring out the best of myself, but what comes to mind as you ask that question right now, I could talk about Joseph's character. I could talk about Joseph, the greatness of his soul, his weaknesses, and his strengths, his unbounding love, his sometimes passionate temper. Joseph was human just like all of us. He was quick to reprove as we've seen here in Section 88 with some of his letters to WW Phelps. I love by the way, I didn't say at the end of his letter to WW Phelps. He ends it with a postscript saying like, "And you need to do a little bit better with what you're publishing in the <i>The Evening and Morning Star</i> . Otherwise, the newspaper is going to fail." |

Hank Smith:	00:53:55	Just a little side note.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:53:57	Joseph was quick to rebuke. He would reprove at times with sharpness, but then afterward, he would show an increase of love, lest his brother esteemed him as his enemy. I could talk about all those things with Joseph, but we've talked a little bit as we enter the podcast here about the temple. When I think about the temple, I was at the temple before it closed before COVID. I remember looking around at all these women and men in their ceremonial, symbolic clothing to be one day become great high priests and priestesses, talking about the potential of exaltation to become like God, for families to be bound with the same sociality that exists among us here, exist among us there, looking at people finding such meaning and strength in the ordinances, this gathering place.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:54:56	I just remember thinking, "Man, if Joseph could see this, he would be like this is awesome. I mean look how hard it is just even..." you guys have created a great podcast. Could you imagine creating a religion that millions and millions and millions of people over hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of years find the most profound depth and meaning in? I just looked at that in the temple going, "How did this come about if it was not God inspired this rejoicing in the house of the Lord, even as much as I revere Moses." Sometimes Joseph Smith is called the modern Moses. I know we call that to Brigham, but the Lord likens Moses to Joseph because what was Moses trying to do?
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:55:47	Well, Moses was trying to create a nation of priests, and his people weren't ready. I am convinced if Moses showed up today and looked at a modern day temple endowment session, he'd say to Joseph, "My goodness Joseph, you have created a nation of priests and priestesses," and Joseph would be like, "I know. Isn't it a miracle?"
Hank Smith:	00:56:07	Tony, Moses had 120 years, Joseph had 38.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:56:14	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	00:56:15	He's a kid. I can't hit that enough. He is a kid.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	00:56:20	He is. I mean again, he's 27 years old as he's revealing these things. I go to the temple and I find so much meaning in it, in its ordinances, in its promises, in its rituals, in its symbols. I just can't help, but see the finger of God, just written through the

whole thing. I think of things like Hank, you mentioned where is Christ in the temple. He's everywhere, and that's just one of the things about the temple, about the Restoration, about Joseph. I am a more chaste person, I'm a more consecrated person, I'm a more obedient person. I strive to live the higher law of the gospel. I strive to sacrifice because of my love of Jesus, but because of Jesus that the Restoration has made him so big to me.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:57:25 | It's helped me grasp him so much better. It's almost like the Restoration, the revelations of Joseph are like a magnifying glass to Jesus. I can see him on a certain level, but the Restoration and the revelations of the restoration just magnify him and therefore, magnify me. Because of that, I'm looking out my window and looking at the mountains here. I just want to climb up on this mountaintop and shout to the world that Joseph Smith is a prophet of God, and where can we find his match? Where can we see somebody who is like him? Surely, we don't see his match in the last few hundred years, and Joseph ranks among a handful of people of great religious leaders to mobilize and marshal, and find meaning in the purpose of life. I just love Joseph. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:58:31 | I love him as a prophet. I love the Restoration because of how it's magnified God to me and His Son and the purpose of life. I see that when I go to the holy temple, and I hope your listeners do as well. |
| Hank Smith: | 00:58:44 | Ah. Tony, Section 88 to me is changed, it's transformed. I hope everyone when you listen to our podcast, I hope you don't just listen to the podcast and that's it because there's so much more in these sections that we don't get to cover. I hope it's spurring you and I think John, you'd say the same thing. I hope listening to this is spurring you to sit down with your Doctrine and Covenants and find your own... |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 00:59:22 | If any of your listeners out there are struggling over valid things, things we worry about, things we think about, but again, if you want to get to the root of these sections like Hank is saying, obviously number one, sit down and read the Book of Mormon and ask yourself where did it come from, but also sit down with sections like 76 and 84 and 88 and 93, 121, 122, and just ask yourself where are these concepts, these words, these ideas, these doctrines, these ordinances, these exalting principles, where are they coming from. You basically have two options. One is that Joseph Smith is just a religious genius or two, they |

are being revealed from on high from God through his chosen servant in these last days.

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| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 01:00:16 | I hope as Hank is saying, you don't just listen to what I might say or Hank or John, or any other guests are on here. You get in here and just marinate in these words and let the spirit of them marinate on you, and just embed themselves into your life and mind and character. |
| Hank Smith: | 01:00:37 | Yeah, I think there's something sacred about finding somewhere quiet and sitting down and reading Section 88 slowly, carefully. That's a sacred experience all by itself. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 01:00:51 | Yeah, it is. I can't tell you how many countless times I've read this section and just preparing for this podcast, I read it last night again and I read it this morning again. As I read it last night, I just was like I was totally not doing where it tells me to go to bed early. I was sitting up at midnight reading it, reading a section telling me to go to bed early, but as I was reading it, I was just blown away again, the power of this section. |
| Hank Smith: | 01:01:20 | It's the pen of heaven. Yeah, it's just absolutely... I don't know, there's not a word to describe it besides, I don't know, sublime, sacred. |
| Dr. Anthony Swe...: | 01:01:32 | Yeah, yeah. |
| Hank Smith: | 01:01:33 | It takes you to a new level. |
| John Bytheway: | 01:01:36 | I don't want to get off topic, but I feel the same way about the Pearl of Great Price, lots of where did this come from. I mean what was the papyrus, what was this, what was that. Just read it and go, "Whoa, where did this come from?" |
| Hank Smith: | 01:01:51 | Yeah, and I understand. Again, I sympathize with people who have various struggles and those are real and acknowledged, but sometimes we get caught up on minor details. It's a little bit like looking at the <i>Mona Lisa</i> and noticing a brushstroke that seems a little awry and missing the greater painting or Van Gogh's <i>Starry Night</i> and going like, "Well, this or this in the painting bothers me, but don't overlook the fact that it's a masterpiece still and there will be aspects..." I one time said to somebody, someone said to me, "How do you explain this about Joseph, or how do you reconcile that?" I said, "I don't try to reconcile Joseph Smith. I just try to reconcile myself to God. |

Hank Smith:	01:02:35	The scriptures tell us to be reconciled to God, not be reconciled to Joseph. Joseph will have to work out his own salvation with fear and trembling before the Lord like we all will." There are certain aspects or things that I'm like, "Yeah, that's difficult for me or I don't know how to explain that, or I can't explain that brush stroke, but I do see the masterpiece in the overall canvas of the restoration that came through the artist of Joseph."
Hank Smith:	01:03:02	Yeah. You imagine taking one of those pieces, seeing the brush stroke you just don't quite understand or don't like, and tossing out the whole painting. What a tragedy in my mind.
John Bytheway:	01:03:14	What a tragedy, yeah.
Hank Smith:	01:03:15	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	01:03:16	I love the Richard Bushman statement. I feel like the older I get... I think when I was young, I expected a testimony to be a feeling and I think so much more now that I'm older, I'm just recognizing fruits all over the place. The way you said that Tony, a religion that works must be taken seriously. I have seen it work for so many people and bless them and change them, and they are walking witnesses all around me of what it does for, what a religion that works does for people.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:03:53	Yeah. I think Stephen Harper one time said... I think it was Steve, "We not only need to show people that the Church is true. We also need to show them that the Church is good." I like that line, and one of the ways that we show people the Church is good is that the Church produces good. It doesn't mean that there aren't bad people in the Church. It doesn't mean there aren't things that are wrong in the Church.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:04:19	As we move forward in the ongoing Restoration, things still need to be rectified and revealed and clarified and fixed, and errors that need to be made right, but that which edifies is of God as Section 50 says, "And watch the Church edify you and watch it edify others," as we learn to live these principles that are revealed in sections like 88 because they take bad to good and good to great and great to God, which is what I think it's trying to do for us and will do if we'll follow its ordinances and principles.
John Bytheway:	01:04:59	I think all three of us, we watch these students come into our classrooms and sometimes just these delightful countenances and just faithful kids. I feel something whisper behold the fruits

of the gospel right in front of you, "Look at how unusual these young adults are, and they're just delightful and bright," and there it is right in front of me, the testimony.

Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:05:30	Yep, amen, amen to that and so many of those listening to this podcaster, they are the very fruits. They're the very kind of people that show that the Restoration is real. Young and old, it's a marvel to me.
Hank Smith:	01:05:45	I think if you guys knew me back when I was in the 1900s, you would say, "The gospel is true. Look what it took. It took that and turned it into that and going for God, God's Most improved."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:05:59	You might get the Most Improved Player of the Year Award, but I might get the Runner Up right behind you. I can't remember if I said this before and if you want to exit out, go ahead, but when I was a seminary student when I was a teenager, I was not the best kid. I say that I was more concerned with being cool than I was with being kind. I was more centered on being an all-state basketball player than an all-state priesthood holder as I should have been. My Seminary Teacher called my mother and said, "Sister Sweat, this is brother so-and-so. I don't know how to say this, but every time your son enters my class, the Spirit leaves." Then later... oh, and he was probably right.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:06:51	Later after my mission, when I became a Seminary Teacher, we were at a meeting and he saw me as a newly hired Seminary Teacher. He watched at me and he goes, "Tony Sweat, is that you?" and I said, "Yes." He hugged me, and all he did, he just shook his head and just said, "The Church is true, the Church is true."
Hank Smith:	01:07:13	Oh. Yep, that's another fruit, right? It's another fruit of just what it's done to us. Well...
John Bytheway:	01:07:24	We are all a work in progress and let's allow others, including those who have gone before us in Church History to be a work in progress.
Hank Smith:	01:07:32	Yeah.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:07:33	Yeah.
John Bytheway:	01:07:34	I'm a worker in major progress, that spells "wimp," but yeah.

Hank Smith:	01:07:41	I want to finish today by quoting Section 88, verse 133, "You are both my friends and my brothers through the grace of God in the bonds of love."
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:07:50	Mm-hmm (affirmative), I feel the same way my brothers.
Hank Smith:	01:07:53	I hope people can sense that.
Dr. Anthony Swe...:	01:07:55	I feel the same way. It's such an honor to be with you again. Thanks for having me on your podcast again. I just love you both and am so grateful for all the great work that you both do. Thank you for being my friends.
Hank Smith:	01:08:07	Yeah, and we love you.
John Bytheway:	01:08:08	Thank you.
Hank Smith:	01:08:10	We want to thank Dr. Anthony Sweat, Tony for being with us. We want to thank all of you for listening. We're grateful for your support. We want to thank our executive producers, the wonderful Steve and Shannon Sorensen and we have a great production crew, don't we John? People who are working behind the scenes on this that we've got oh...
John Bytheway:	01:08:32	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	01:08:32	We feel like people come up to us, "I love your podcast. The podcast is helping so much." We've got this team that's doing all this work, and no one's walking up to them and telling them.
John Bytheway:	01:08:45	Yeah.
Hank Smith:	01:08:46	We want to make sure that David Perry and Lisa Spice and Jamie Nielsen and Kyle Nelson and Will Staughton and Maria Hilton get the love that they deserve. We love you, and we're grateful for our team. We hope you will join us on our next episode of followHIM.

followHIM Favorites

D&C 88

Episode 33

Hank Smith:	00:00	My friends, welcome to followHIM Favorites. My name is Hank Smith. I'm the co-host of a podcast called followHIM. And every week we'd like to do a small little clip called followHIM Favorites, where we pick out our favorites from this week's lesson. This week, we're in section 88 of the doctrine and covenants. I'm here with my co-host John, by the way. And you might notice a third person on our first followHIM Favorite. We're including our guest for our longer podcast, Dr. Tony Sweat. So, welcome to the both of you, John and Tony.
Dr. Tony Sweat:	00:36	I'm so happy to be on followHIM Favorites. It's like I get to be a first time again. First guest, again, on your-
Hank Smith:	00:43	That's true. You are our first podcast guest. You're now our first followHIM Favorite guest. John we're in one section, section 88. You get to tell us your followHIM Favorite.
John Bytheway:	00:55	This is hard. There's 141 verses here and picking one wasn't very easy, but I know that both of you have heard stories and I've heard stories about people that seem to have a light in their eyes. And in October of 2005, you can look this up, president Faust gave this talk and he told a few of these and there are dozens of them. But he talks about students at the BYU Jerusalem center, how difficult it was to get permission to build that place and so forth. And he said, one of our friends in Jerusalem, after we made this agreement that the students wouldn't proselyte, they wouldn't go around and try to share the gospel in Israel, that was something they're not supposed to do, but what if, he said, one of our friends in Jerusalem wrote us and said, okay, we know your young people aren't going to proselyte, but what are you going to do about that shining in their eyes?
John Bytheway:	01:42	And I said, it was so interesting. Let's look at verse 11. There's a lot of things about the light of Christ here and how he is the light of everything. Verse 11 says, "The light which shyness, which give you light is through him who enlighteneth your eyes, which is the same light, that quickeneth with your understandings." And you've probably heard stories like that yourself. And I think when you get older, you recognize it in so many people. You see the young people that we work with and

you see, look at that wonderful sparkle in their eyes. But I think it's really a thing. There's just too many stories, including some in general conference, about how that's a thing, these people that have this light in their eyes.

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| Hank Smith: | 02:26 | My brother-in-law, John, is a secret service agent. And at one point he was assigned to the Olympics here in Salt Lake City to do security. And he said, the agents, the other agents from all around the country, when they came with him, they would say things like that to him. They'd say, what is it with the people here? Everyone here has just got this glow, this aura. They said, I see these beautiful women with seven little ducklings behind them, following them around. They're like, what is it with these people here? And Derek would be like, I don't know. They're just- |
| John Bytheway: | 03:07 | Section 88, verse 11, he would say. |
| Hank Smith: | 03:08 | Yeah. They're doing their best. My followHIM Favorite is going to come towards the end of the section in verses 118 and 119. I'm kind of stealing this from Dr. Sweat in our full podcast. And those of you who are either just been through the temple or who are about to go through the temple, I hope you'll take time to listen to the full podcast because Dr. Sweat really shows us the temple in this section. But the Lord says, I want you to seek wisdom from the best books. Well, for my kids, my little kids, the best books are the Harry Potter books. They love. If they were going to say, oh, the Lord wants us to study Harry Potter. That's what they would get out of 118. |
| Dr. Tony Sweat: | 03:54 | My little daughter, Hank, sorry to interrupt, when my daughter was little, she was like eight and she read Harry Potter for the first time, we found a little sign that she put up in her room that said, read Harry Potter. It will change your life. |
| Hank Smith: | 04:05 | Yeah. Right? Yeah. That's exactly my kids. Well, those of you who are Harry Potter fans, if you remember the Order of The Phoenix. The Order of The Phoenix was a special group, picked out among people to fight against evil. Right? That they were going to make it kind of their full-time thing was going to fight the evil force of Lord Voldemort. Right? Well, in verse 119, the Lord kind of starting this school of the prophets, which will eventually turn into kind of the temple endowment, he calls it a house of order. That's not necessarily meaning organized and things are in their right place, but this house or this temple is going to put you into an order. So, if you've ever dreamed of being part of the Order Of The Phoenix, this is going to be the closest you're going to get to it. The Lord is inviting you into a |

group to fight against evil. And he wants you to be a part of it. Dr. Sweat, you get to tell us your followHIM Favorite.

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| Dr. Tony Sweat: | 05:13 | All right, I'm going to key off what Hank just said. Look at verse 118. The Lord tells these people at this time, "As thou have not faith, seek ye diligently and teach one another, words of wisdom. Yeah, seek ye out of the best books, word of wisdom, seek learning even by study and also by faith." That is just a great line. I'm doing a double favorite because you also need to connect it to verses 79. He tells them to learn of things in the earth and under the earth. Oh no, the Lord just said, learn geology. That's nerve wracking. Things which are, things which must shortly come to pass, economics, the things which are at home, wars, international relations. The Lord is telling us here, he wants us to learn, he wants us to grow. |
| Dr. Tony Sweat: | 06:12 | And kind of, I guess maybe what I'd say to you is sometimes in the church, you hear people say, I felt the spirit. I really feel the spirit. You don't hear people saying often, I thought the spirit, or I think the spirit. My friend, Scott Woodward up at BYU, Idaho, likes to talk about this. Remember the Lord says, I will tell you in your mind and in your heart. One of the things the Lord wants us to do is to enlighten and expand our minds. So, don't separate those into two things of, the Holy Ghost is all just emotional or affective. It's also intellectual. And the Lord, he can expand your mind, but he also wants you to expand your mind. Joseph Smith, one time said, Mormonism is truth. And another time Brigham Young said, Mormonism embraces all truth. Wherever we learn it, wherever we get it. So, you doing well in school, you studying, you learning, you growing your minds is also part of growing your spirit as well, is what I want to say from section 88. |
| Hank Smith: | 07:21 | Oh. That's really nice. I remember reading a book by Henry Eyring, senior, where he talked about his chemistry. He should have been a Nobel prize winning chemist. And he felt that that was part of the gospel. His chemistry work was discovering truth. |
| Dr. Tony Sweat: | 07:38 | Study is worship. It's part of it. |
| Hank Smith: | 07:43 | Yeah. That a beautiful idea. And we all know that you can get an A without getting an education. |
| Dr. Tony Sweat: | 07:53 | That's right. Don't get us started on that. |

Hank Smith:	07:53	So yeah. It's not about getting a good grade as much as it is learning. Right?
Dr. Tony Sweat:	07:59	About expanding your mind. So, next time, if you're reading something or doing homework or watching a good National Geographic documentary, which I know most of you do on Friday nights at 7:00 PM and your parents say, what are you doing? Say, I'm worshipping.
Hank Smith:	08:14	Yeah. I'm expanding my mind. Like it says do in section 88.
Dr. Tony Sweat:	08:18	I'm expanding my mind. I'm thinking the spirit.
Hank Smith:	08:23	I can hear my kids using this against me on bedtime. Do you not want me to worship? Do you not want me to worship?
Dr. Tony Sweat:	08:29	You don't want me to worship? Do you not want me to read Harry Potter about Order Of Phoenix and change my life?
Hank Smith:	08:34	Right? And be part of the fight against evil? That's fine. I'll go to bed, dad. I'll go, well, it actually says in this section, "Cease to sleep longer than his needful, retire to thy bed early."
Dr. Tony Sweat:	08:45	That's right.
Hank Smith:	08:46	So, yeah. I'll be using that.
Dr. Tony Sweat:	08:48	And then your kids can go off on a discussion of how early is a relative term.
Hank Smith:	08:52	Great. Now you just gave it to them. Thank you.
John Bytheway:	08:55	Which side of the international dateline? Yeah.
Hank Smith:	08:58	It's early somewhere. Right? Well, we hope that you'll join us on our full podcast. But if not, come back next week and we'll do another followHIM Favorites. Big thank you to Dr. Sweat for being with us today.
Dr. Tony Sweat:	09:11	Thank you.