



*"I Will Lead You Along"*

## Show Notes & Transcripts

### 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 Wednesday.

### Podcast Episode Descriptions

#### Part 1:

**What do beasts, angels, and scrolls have to do with the character of God and His plan for you?** Dr. Matthew Hinton explores Doctrine and Covenants 77-80, uncovering rich symbolism and profound truths about Jesus Christ, the gathering of Israel, and the Lord's redemptive purpose in the latter days.

#### Part 2:

Dr. Matthew Hinton continues to examine themes in Doctrine and Covenants 77-80, focusing on how God is working to create Zion—a place and a people.

## Timecodes:

### Part 1 -

- 00:00 - Part 1 - Dr. Matthew Hinton
- 05:01 Bio of Matthew Hinton
- 08:16 The *Come, Follow Me Manual*
- 11:00 Where is the Lord leading us?
- 15:41 The framework for Section 77
- 19:08 Encouragement to 1st Century Christians
- 22:14 Be direct, honest, and clear
- 26:10 Scripture study is like the gym
- 28:41 A door is opened
- 31:40 A sea of glass and hope
- 35:14 Same sociality with the Savior
- 38:04 Elder Renlund's "Personal Preparation to Meet the Savior"
- 40:35 Dr. Hinton's blind sister but what she sees
- 45:06 The Lord's character comforts during trials
- 47:38 John's cat's place in the eternities
- 50:27 Eternal felicity is the purpose
- 54:37 God reveals His plan
- 58:26 Wings and eyes and the Savior steps up
- 1:03:12 Breathtaking patterns of the gospel in Section 77
- 1:06:42 Hidden in plain sight
- 1:09:26 Get excited about the Second Coming
- 1:12:16- End of Part I - Dr. Matthew Hinton

### Part 2 -

- 00:00 - Part 2 - Dr. Matthew Hinton
- 01:59 The Lord is patient
- 06:21 The larger the problem, the more critical the solution
- 10:49 Administer of your substance
- 15:56 God wants willing hearts
- 18:04 Why temples and humanitarian work?
- 25:03 United Firm
- 29:23 A marinating mess
- 31:43 Newel and Elizabeth Whitney
- 34:56 God wants disciples forever
- 38:09 How can we be more consecrated?
- 42:30 How the Lord reveals His nature
- 46:14 The gift of healing
- 50:17 The influence of consecrated Saints
- 56:07 The Lord works with His people
- 01:00:23 - End of Part 2 - Dr. Matthew Hinton

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## Biographical Information:



Matthew Hinton grew up in Hurricane Utah. He served his mission in Panama, Panama City, Spanish speaking. After returning home he attended BYU and met and fell in love with Jennifer Lathrop. They were married in the St. George temple and have four beautiful daughters. He loves his daughters and finally added two great sons-in-law to the family. Brother Hinton has a master’s degree in Family Life Education and a Doctorate Degree in Organizational Leadership. Brother Hinton loves the outdoors and all sports. His favorite sport, of course, is wrestling. He has been teaching seminary, directing EFY, and working with youth for 25 years and loves the youth of the church. Brother Hinton has spoken at BYU Education Week and loves teaching. Brother Hinton’s current assignment is at BYU, training the next generation of seminary teachers. A Couple interesting facts about Brother Hinton. He loves Captain Crunch with Crunch Berries, and he is color blind.

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| Hank Smith:      | 00:00:00 | Coming up in this episode on followHIM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:00:05 | I look at these verses and I think there is so much going on that's amazing. We had temples and gathering and <a href="#">President Nelson</a> says in the last conference that we have spiritual momentum and more youth going out. He's announced 200 temples since he's become a prophet. We look at the world, sometimes we can get so lost in the scary, but God is working a marvelous work and a wonder. |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:00:37 | Hello everyone. Welcome to another episode of followHIM. My name is Hank Smith. I am your host. I'm here with my co-host, John Bytheway, who will speak in our ears the words of wisdom, Doctrine & Covenants Section 78 verse two. Now, John, it's talking about Joseph Smith here, but it could be talking about you as well. Speak in our ears, the words of wisdom.                                         |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:00:59 | I hope so. I'll repeat words that I've heard other people speak because I'm not that wise, but I know people who are.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:01:06 | You are the wise old sage up on the hill. We go to seek your advice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:01:11 | Emphasis on the word old.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:01:16 | John, we are joined today by Dr. Matt Hinton, a very good friend of mine. Matt, welcome to followHIM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:01:24 | Thanks. I'm excited to be with you two today. Thanks for the opportunity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:01:28 | Oh man, I love that voice. I've known it since the 19 hundreds. John, Matt, we are looking at sections 77 through 80 today. We just finished with a major section of the Doctrine & Covenants. We talked about it with both Dr. Dirkmaat in our Voices of the Restoration episode last week, and Dr. Fluhman in our lesson on section 76. It was huge, but we're moving on now. John, when                      |

you think Book of Revelation, what comes to mind? because that's how we start in section 77.

John Bytheway: 00:02:03 Yeah, it's like a different language almost. I think of beasts and horns and many eyes. But look at section 77, like who gets to just have a Q&A with the Lord like that? It is crazy.

Hank Smith: 00:02:19 Yeah. Why don't we just study the scriptures today with Joseph Smith and the Lord as one does. As we often do. Matt, as you've looked at these few sections, what do you want to do today?

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:02:30 I'm so excited. These are some rich, rich sections relative to some prophetic emphasis of President Nelson being prepared for the second coming in 77. When we talk about the book of Revelation, you're talking about a book that was written by John the Revelator to a group of people in the ancient churches. Where [Joseph](#) opens up in chapter four of the book of Revelation we're talking second coming and some of the preparations for the last days. That's what Joseph starts asking some questions about how fun to be able to sit down and say, Heavenly Father, what does this mean? No wonder Joseph can say it's the plainest book ever, because if you could just ask God and he gives you an answer, then it's pretty plain. So I'm excited to explore just some of what Joseph experienced there. I'm also excited with Doctrine & Covenants 78, looking at the United Firm, what the Lord was really trying to do there, not just at that time, but overall and what that means for us.

00:03:42 One of the things I've loved about studying the scriptures, my job is training teachers, trying to help teachers learn what the problems are that the scriptures are trying to solve, that the Lord's trying to solve for us. Exploring some of that. In 78, you both got a son going out on a mission. John, you've got missionaries. I've had a couple, some of those missionary calls and what that looks like in 79 and 80. We're going to see some things that the Lord wants to reveal about himself to us. We'll recognize and talk about some of the things President Nelson's trying to prepare us for.

Hank Smith: 00:04:21 Fantastic. I am looking forward to this. I get to teach the book of Revelation in some of my classes at BYU. John is able to say things with symbols that I found to be really powerful. Maybe I can get a chance to talk about that. Yeah.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:04:36 And as we know, John's really the only one that's been allowed to write it.

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| John Bytheway:   | 00:04:40 | Yeah, yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:04:42 | What we have is really unique to John the Revelator and the opportunity to paint a picture for us, an allegory of how to prepare for the last days and what the Savior's role is going to be in that.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:04:57 | It reminds me a bit of what we talked about two weeks ago, John, when we said it's bigger on the inside. The book of Revelation might look like, oh, I'm not going to understand this. It's way outside my realm, and no, step inside, start to look around, start to learn the language. You're going to say, wow, there's a lot more here than I thought. Now, I said earlier, John, that I've known Matt a long time. I've known him longer than I've known my wife. Matt and I go back almost three decades. That's about as long as anybody I keep in touch with these days. You go back any further and people know me a little too well, but Matt is new to our followHIM audience. Can you give us a bio for him John? and I might throw in a couple of details of things I know.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:05:40 | Yeah, please do. Dr. Matthew Hinton. He's been employed with seminaries and institutes. We used to call it CES now we say SNI.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:05:48 | Right?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:05:49 | With Seminaries and Institutes since 2000 turn of the century. He is a pre-service trainer. I don't know about you guys, but I think pre-service is a church jargon. I've never heard anybody else talk about pre-service. I wonder if there was a pre-service, pre-existence training. He works with BYU students who are seeking to become Seminary Institute teachers. His assignments have included a seminary teacher, of course, and a principal assistant area director. He received a bachelor's degree from BYU in Marriage, Family and Human Development, a master's from Utah State in Family and Human Development, a doctorate from the American College of Education and Educational Leadership. He enjoys the outdoors, pickleball, and being with his family. He served his mission in Panama, Panama City and met his sweetheart at BYU. They have four beautiful daughters. They live in Payson. Matt, we're really glad to have you. We should have a pre-service, pre-training for pre-followHIM. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:07:01 | I think we had that today, didn't we?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| John Bytheway:   | 00:07:03 | Yeah, we kind of did. Yeah. Before we pushed record, we've been here for a minute.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:07:08 | Yeah, we've been here for a while, but I've enjoyed it because I got two of my friends here and John too, so, um...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:07:17 | I think he means John the Revelator. Which one's your friend?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:07:20 | Yeah. Yeah, John, when you know someone for almost three decades, you get a sense for who they really are. Matt Hinton is good to the core all the way through and through. He and I have been in different circumstances together. Our very first time working together was a program called EFY. It's now called FSJ as we all know, but it was EFY. We worked together back in Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. I still remember like it was yesterday, Matt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:07:50 | It was a great time working with you. There's nothing better.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:07:53 | Yeah. Anyone who is at that Lawrence, Kansas session needs to message us on YouTube today so we can have a reunion from the 19 hundreds. Matt is a disciple of Christ through and through. His wife is just a step above him.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:08:09 | About four steps above me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:08:11 | Okay.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:08:11 | That's where she's at.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:08:13 | Like all of us. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:08:16 | Hey John, Matt, I'm going to read from the <a href="#">Come, Follow Me</a> manual. Let's get started. Let's have some fun. The lesson is called I Will Lead You Along. It's section 77 through 80. As we talked about less than two years after the Church of Jesus Christ was restored, it had more than 2000 members. It's like a stake and was growing quickly. In March, 1832, Joseph Smith met with other church leaders to discuss church business, the need to publish revelations, purchase land to gather on and care for the poor to meet these needs. The Lord called on a small number of church leaders to form the United Firm, a group that would join their efforts to advance the cause of the Lord in these areas, but even in such administrative matters, the Lord focused on the things of eternity. Ultimately, the purpose of a printing press or a storehouse, like everything else in God's kingdom, is to prepare his children to receive a place in the |

celestial world and the riches of eternity. If those blessings are hard to comprehend right now, in the midst of the busyness of daily life, he reassures us be of good cheer for I will lead you along. I love it. Even in administrative matters, the Lord is saying, let me teach along the way. Let me show you some things you may have not thought of. With that, Matt, how do you want to go about this? I know all of these sections are different from one another.

- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:09:37 Yeah. There is a little bit of a common theme though in the terms of the Lord leading us somewhere. The Lord is trying through, obviously with Section 76 that you just talked about, that landmark vision that altered the way the Saints thought about the celestial kingdom and the other kingdoms, and what the Lord is providing for us, where he wants us to end up, what the main goal that Heavenly Father has for us. This is a section where we combine some spiritual and temporal to really highlight the Lord's real purpose in what he's doing in the world today. We can see it today versus back then with the purpose of the restoration was to bring his children back to him. We'll see this leading along in temporal and spiritual affairs. I don't know if you heard this, but I heard this in the last general conference, the need to have a relationship with the Savior Jesus Christ. The Savior is trying to create ways where we can know him better and understand him better, and I think that's what he's trying to help these saints really come to grips with is who he is, what his ultimate goals are, and I hope that's what we do. Do you want to just jump in?
- Hank Smith: 00:10:59 Let's do it.
- John Bytheway: 00:11:00 I like the focus you're giving us. What is the savior trying to reveal about himself in these sections? That way, even if one's about the book of Revelation and one's about the United Firm, we still have the common goal looking for where's the Savior in this? I appreciate that.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:11:17 One of the skills I try to teach our teachers is how to be Christ-centered in our approach. Christ-centered teaching requires Christ-centered learning. How do you learn about the Savior from his words? What is it that he's trying to teach? One of the things I'd like to do today is if Section 77 through 80 were the only books of scripture that we had, only chapters, we didn't have any other scripture, what would they reveal about the Savior? About heavenly Father and their character and their attributes? I want everyone just to think about this. I'm going to frame it this way as we study today, what do you learn about the Savior's mercy, protection, strength, power, desires,

motives? What do we learn about his motives in everything that he's doing in these sections? If we put it into that context and when we get to 77, we're talking about the book of Revelation apocalypse, which means to reveal, what is he trying to reveal?

00:12:27 Well, he is trying to reveal himself, and if you go to Revelation chapter one verse one, we need to do a little background here. Revelation one, one, the revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him to shew unto his servants these things must shortly come to pass. Dr. Frederick, you guys have had him on here before. He has a great article. If people want to look at it, we maybe connect it to the show notes or something here, but interpretive approaches to the Book of Revelation by Nicholas Frederick. He makes this statement as one of the three things to keep in mind. Always remember the first words of the book, the revelation of John, a servant of God, which was given unto him, Jesus Christ, and then he just says, this is precisely what John is doing for his readers. Pulling back the veil revealing to us who Jesus Christ really is.

00:13:24 The name Jesus appears rather sparingly in the book of Revelation around a dozen times, but his influence, his importance lies behind every verse. That's what we're going to see and that's what heavenly Father and the Savior's going to reveal to Joseph here is let me teach you about who I am, who my son is, and what we really want to do in the world and what the restoration of the gospel really means. Just giving a little background, Joseph, back in section 45, they've been translating early on in the history of the church within months of the restoration, they're translating the Bible in section 45. He's told, stop translating the Old Testament. Start translating the New Testament. The context of that in section 45 is in verse 60 says, and now behold, this is 45 Doctrine & Covenants 45:60. Now behold I say unto you, it shall not be given unto you to know any further concerning this chapter, and he's referring to Matthew 24.

00:14:29 This revelation that he's seeking to understand this chapter where the apostles go to Jesus and say, when are you coming again? He says, you won't know anything further concerning this chapter until the New Testament be translated and in all these things shall be made known. Joseph starts translating the New Testament. He goes until 1833, but in 1832 in March, that's when we're to this point where Joseph is getting to the book of Revelation. He's had some visions that 46, 76, 77, 86 all come from his translation of the New Testament. This is probably received between March 4th and March 20th is what scholars have come up with. If it's towards the latter end of that, within

five days, Joseph is going to be dragged out of his home in Hiram, Ohio and beaten and Sidney Rigdon. That's on March 25th. 76 came in early in February. What's happened is it's really altered what people have thought this restoration was in their minds, many of them a restoration of the New Testament Church.

00:15:41 What God is showing is that this is way bigger than just, this is the new and everlasting covenant. This is much larger than these early saints even thought about. Many of them struggle with that, which is why they turn to attacking Joseph. That's where we get to 77. Now, before we jump into 77, I really want to remind us of the framework here. What do we learn? What is the Savior trying to teach us about himself as we study section 77? We probably need to go to chapter four because this is where he's at. If you have Revelation chapter four, I don't know about you, but man, I need to do this more. In my personal scripture study, [Robert Millet](#) said that so many revelations were received between 1831 and 1833 because Joseph had this intensive study of the scriptures where he is asking questions and God's answering him.

00:16:45 This is why section 77 comes. This is why most of our sections have come because we are intensively studying the scriptures, trying to figure out what the Lord wants for us. I could probably do a much better job at my scripture study if I really went to the Lord with some questions. Verse one, revelation to chapter four, let's start there because I think it has to paint a picture for what he's asking about as he's translating the New Testament. The book of Revelation is, like John said earlier, it's a new language. This is like speaking a different genre of we've gone to a foreign country. We don't understand the language and it's on purpose because there's some things that John's trying to help us with relative to our own spirituality, to discern as he is painting these pictures and hide some things from people who aren't sensitive and spiritually sensitive enough too.

Hank Smith: 00:17:45 As I've studied the book of Revelation, I've noticed a couple of things. One, very symbolic. Two, if you don't know your Old Testament, the book of Revelation, I don't want to say John's a plagiarist, but there's a lot of Old Testament in here. If you don't know that Old Testament very well, you're going to be lost. I use this example with my students. If I were to say in the Book of Revelation, if I was using the Book of Mormon as my basis, but someone hasn't ever read the Book of Mormon. If I said I saw 2060 soldiers go to war, someone who hasn't read the Book of Mormon would be confused. What does he mean? But if someone's read the Book of Mormon they're I know what he's

talking about. He's talking about the Stripling Warriors. It's the same way with the Book of Revelation. You have to know your Old Testament in order to understand it.

- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:18:38 Book of Revelation is an analogous history of the world from the beginning to the very end, this new and everlasting covenant that started in the Old Testament that started from the Premortal life that's being restored, he uses the symbols from Ezekiel. I know John's a big proponent of the footnotes. You look at these footnotes, he connects us to the Old Testament prophecies and visions.
- Hank Smith: 00:19:08 If you don't know those, it's okay if you don't. I don't want anyone, oh man, I haven't memorized the Old Testament. You're okay. Neither have us three. Another point is understanding the context the people John is speaking to. We can liken these scriptures to us, but this is first century Christianity who is under serious persecution by the people around them. John is trying to give a message of encouragement to those first century Christians. Of course, we're going to liken it to us. That's what Joseph does here, but we don't want to forget who he's talking to.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:19:44 Yeah. Chapters two and three are all these letters to these seven churches, whether it's seven or all the congregation, whether that's symbolic or literal, but these ancient saints who need some hope, they're trying to figure out how to live their lives in a world that's highly sexualized. You think about the hellenization of everything, the challenges that they're facing, trying to stay moral. The Lord's through John saying there is a way through this. As you stay connected to the Savior, and we'll talk about this in a minute in chapter five, but the Savior's going to win here. I think it's Dr. Frederick who says, if I could summarize this whole thing is Jesus wins.
- Hank Smith: 00:20:32 Yeah, right? He's going to show us how great God is in the beginning. He's going to show us how great God is at the end and the final product. Then the middle gets dark, but if you know the beginning and you know the end, you can make it through the middle.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:20:49 That's what I think is so fascinating about 77. Joseph is under some difficulty right now with some of the reports that are out there. They're spreading rumors about Joseph and some of these challenges that are happening, and I think this is a timely revelation for him to say, let me teach you about myself. What's going to happen here and what my main purpose is. That's what we're going to find in 77.

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| John Bytheway:   | 00:21:14 | When I first heard the word apocalypse, I'm thinking somebody out there might be going, what's that phrase you guys are using? Apocalyptic. Well, when you hear apocalypse, I've heard, oh, that's like a big final battle or something. Maybe we can explain a little bit more. Apocalypse comes from this idea of end times, but apocalyptic like we've been talking as kind of a language. Hank, you mentioned the Old Testament. Would you say Daniel is in apocalyptic?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:21:44 | At least the second half. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:21:46 | When we're talking about apocalyptic as a language, Daniel's one of those you mentioned Ezekiel, how would you guys characterize? Apocalyptic is like wild fanciful symbols. Is that how you?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:21:59 | Well, it wouldn't have been wild to them, but it is wild to us.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:22:02 | They would've understood this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:22:05 | Yeah. Mm-hmm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:22:06 | This would've been a language they spoke.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:22:09 | Pretty normal to get a letter like this from a church leader.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:22:14 | I remember I took a class in college called business writing and this professor was, you need to be direct, honest and clear. You deny the listener the right to misunderstand. If I find one typo in your final project, it's an F. It needs to be so clear and so concise. Seriously has to be so clear and concise because it's business writing. Like I always tell my students, Isaiah did not take this class. We would say those who wrote apocalyptic did not take this class. It's a different way of right? My book of Revelation professor was Richard Draper. I loved what he said. He said, if you're going to write something super important and you don't want anybody to tamper with it, you write it in code, and that's how he introduced the idea of apocalyptic to us was it's in code. People they don't know what to do. Should I take some of the horns off or one of the eyes or what do I do with this symbol? It has remained pretty intact from what I've read, but it's in code and I love that. 77 is, okay, here's this code. I have some questions about this book written in apocalyptic code. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:23:31 | Even some of the answers that are given, we still have to...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| John Bytheway:   | 00:23:35 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:23:36 | It's like, okay, it's figurative and it's literal because it is a symbolic language. If you wanted to tie it into the way the Savior, one of the reasons he taught in parables. If you have eyes to see and ears to hear, then you can see what the Lord's trying to do, but there's some of that with John probably that there's a code here. Joseph gets to ask some questions and say, okay, help me break this code. Some of it's clear, some of it's still...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:24:06 | Murky. Yeah. If I was going to write a letter to both of you and I wanted to give you a lot of encouragement in dealing with difficulty, I didn't want anyone to tamper with it. I'd use something that the three of us understand that other people don't understand. I could speak Book of Mormon to you and if someone hasn't read the Book of Mormon, they might be really lost. I think he does the same thing with the Old Testament also here. I wonder what you both think about this. When I run into something like Section 77, I think of one of my favorite statements, John, I've said it probably a dozen times on here from <a href="#">Richard L. Evans</a> . He said, it is good to be faithful. It is better to be faithful and competent. I think what Joseph is trying to show us is we're faithful, but I want to understand these things. I want to be able to read scripture and read it in a responsible way. Getting to the intent of the author and what the Lord is hoping that I'll find. Maybe Section 77 is an example to all of us. Like you said, Matt is get into the scriptures, get some questions and get those answered. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:25:12 | God is leaving us answers. How he has worked with his children from the very beginning until now and some of what's there and why we have it is because he said, this is the problem they were encountering. This is the issues that the early church was having. These are the challenges that they were dealing with and this is how I help them. Through my apostles this is how I help them. There's something to that with every chapter, right? The intent of the inspired author was to leave a record of how God solves problems for us, for them at the time, but for us too, the need to go to the scriptures with the right questions and understanding who he's talking to and the problem that he's trying to solve and what does that look like for us and how does that solution translate? That's a fun way to look at scripture too.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:26:10 | Maybe this is a silly analogy, but I sometimes think of intense scripture study is like going to the gym. I don't really want to at first, but I'm glad when I do and if I can get into the habit, it's a whole lot easier if I can just get into the daily habit of getting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

into the scriptures saying, I really want to understand. It's a mind stretching experience. It can be difficult. It's so much easier to grab my phone and scroll so much easier rather than getting into the gym and doing hard things because as you're reading the book of Revelation, it's going to stretch your mind a little bit.

- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:26:47 [President Nelson](#) would say lazy learners.
- Hank Smith: 00:26:50 Yeah.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:26:51 I think he uses that phrase that, and you've all had this experience where you've asked the right question and you've heard the voice of the Lord speak to you through scripture. When you have that experience, you go back it, it becomes less about the words on the page and more about the words that you're hearing from heaven. The Bible Dictionary says you pray in Christ's name when his words abide in you. Then it is possible for things to ask that for God to grant, well, how do we get his words in us in ways that connect us to him? That's how we get led along.
- Hank Smith: 00:27:27 I believe that same thing, I feel a little bit hypocritical because my employment is to read scripture, to try to understand it. I don't think anyone out there listening should be beating themselves up saying, oh, I'm just a terrible scripture reader. I think I actually would be too if it wasn't part of my job, but I do because it is part of my employment. I have found the joy of sitting down with scripture, really trying to understand, letting my mind really search and think through, go through storylines and doctrines, connecting across chapters, finding sister chapters. It's been a joyous experience. President Hinckley was the only one who could say it becomes a love affair with the word of God.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:28:14 To your point too, with the listeners out there, I found that God is really anxious to jump out of heaven and let people know that he's whatever effort we'll give whatever energy we'll put, the Lord jumps out of heaven to let us know that he recognizes that effort too.
- Hank Smith: 00:28:31 Yeah, I think he's anxious to bless.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:28:34 Well, should we get into 77 some?
- Hank Smith: 00:28:36 Yeah, let's do it.

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:28:37 | John, you want to take verse one, two and maybe Hank three and four.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:28:42 | Okay. Revelation chapter four, verse one. After this, I looked and behold a door was opened in heaven and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me, which said, come up hither and I will shew these things which must be hereafter, and immediately I was in the spirit and behold a throne was set in heaven and one sat on the throne.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:29:09 | Pretty remarkable verses a doors opened, John is given a look. I mean, imagine you walk into a room and the door's open and you peek in. Now you're in the throne room of God. That's what we're seeing here. He sees one sitting on the throne, so then we can go three and four. You got it?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:29:31 | He's already borrowed from Isaiah. I will show you these things which must be hereafter. If you're an Old Testament reader, you go, oh wait, I've heard that before. Verses three and four, and he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone, and there was a rainbow roundabout the throne in sight like unto an emerald and roundabout the throne were four and 20 seats, and upon those seats I saw four and 20 elders sitting clothed in white raiment and they had on their heads crowns of gold.                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:30:07 | And I'm going to read five and six here, and out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal, and in the midst of that throne and roundabout the throne were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. Okay, let's just take those six verses. If you're anybody, what questions do you have? If you're anyone in the world , and you read those six verses, what questions come to mind here? |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:30:46 | Yeah, absolutely. I mean, even if you're an informed scripture reader, you're going to go, I don't know what a jasper is or a sardine stone. What's the rainbow? Yeah. 24's gotta be symbolic. 24, does he actually see 24 people? What is a sea of glass like?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:31:06 | Right? Yeah. That's exactly what Joseph does. Joseph is he is reading these verses. I don't know why he didn't ask about some of the other things. You could go verse by verse and say, okay, well what is this and what is this and what is this? But for some reason, Joseph picks particular things to ask about. When                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

Doctrine & Covenants 77, what's the first thing he wants to know about?

- Hank Smith: 00:31:32 Verse one it's a question, what is the sea of glass spoken of in the fourth chapter sixth verse of Revelation?
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:31:40 So I don't know if that would've been my first question, but it's the question Joseph asked, he sees God sitting up on a throne surrounded by these jasper and sardine stone and emerald and this thunders and lightning, these seven lamps that are probably symbolic of could be the seven churches. If you look at the footnote there, of the seven spirits, you've got the seven servants of the seven churches from chapter one that we're referring back to here, and then the letters we'll find out in a minute the 24 elders there because he asked that question also, it's interesting that he asked about this sea of glass like a crystal. Now let's go back and think about if these were the only chapters of scripture that we had, what is the Savior trying to reveal about himself? As we get the answer to this, if we're thinking about what President Nelson's been trying to focus on the last conference, he says, I don't know when the second coming's coming, but what I do know is I'm being impressed that we need to prepare for that great and judge, great and terrible day. Right? What is the Savior trying to reveal about himself that would give us hope that this is going to be a day that we're going to overcome? What do we learn about him that would give us confidence in building this relationship with him? We get that from the answer. The answer here is what's the answer to this?
- Hank Smith: 00:33:14 The answer is, it is the earth in its sanctified, immortal, and eternal state. You know what I love here, Matt, is the Lord doesn't do exactly what we all just did. If Joseph asked me this question, I would say, okay, well, Joseph, listen, we've got to understand the nature of apocalyptic literature. We have to go back to the history of the first century. The Lord doesn't do that. I'd like to watch him as a teacher. I like to pick up on the way the Lord teaches. He uses simple, succinct answers. It is the earth in its sanctified, immortal, and eternal state. Now, Joseph has his bearings. He has somewhere to serve from. A good teacher does this. Let me give you something that you can clue in on. Something that you can say, oh, I get that. Let's reach out from there a little bit at a time.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:34:05 Yeah. If you think about that, in that footnote there, he's actually saying, let me, let me help you begin with the end in mind, and if you were to put it in the words of [President Nelson](#), you'd say, let me help you think celestial, and he says, the sea of

glass that God's sitting upon is the earth in its celestial state, in its glorified form, but there's more to it than that. Joseph then teaches a little bit more about this. When you get into Section 130, there's some other details in Section 130 that help us. What is the Savior trying to teach us about his character, the father's character? What is it about them that allows us to trust and have confidence in what he's revealing to us? Section 130 verses one through nine. These are sections where Joseph is correcting some false doctrine that's been taught about this idea that the Lord dwells in our hearts and it's an old sectarian notion.

00:35:14 The context of this is really interesting to me. Look at verse one. When the Savior shall appear, we shall see him as he is. We shall see that he is a man like ourselves. Then this scripture we always quote, but we usually quote it out of context because we're talking about the same sociality which exists among us, but it's actually in the context of a relationship with Jesus Christ. The same sociality that exists among us here will exist among us there only it'll be coupled with eternal glory, which glory we do not now enjoy. This idea that the Savior we're going to have the relationship we're building with him, that same sociality that we create here will...

Hank Smith: 00:36:04 Will continue.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:36:06 Yeah. Now he goes on and says some other things about this. Look at verse... Let's just go 4, 5, 6, and 7. You want to pick up there, Hank?

Hank Smith: 00:36:16 Yeah. Joseph asks a question here that he's going to answer. Verse four. He says, here's the question. Is not the reckoning of God's time, angel's time, prophet's time and man's time according to the planet on which they reside? Answer yes, but there are no angels who minister to this earth, but those who do belong or have belonged to it. The angels do not reside on a planet like this earth, but they reside in the presence of God on a globe like a sea of glass and fire, where all things for their glory are manifest, past, present, and future and are continually before the Lord. Verse eight, the place where God resides is a great Urim and Thummim.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:37:01 The answer we got from the Lord was it's the earth in it's sanctified, immortal, eternal state, and Joseph adds to it later. We learn some things. The Lord adds to this, that this is a great Urim and Thummim in that Urim and Thummim, you look back at verse seven that the past, present and the future are all seen through this. God sits on this throne on a great Urim and

Thummim that allows him to know and and well because he of who he is, he knows it's all things are present before him. There's no time. There's no past, present, future. He knows it all because he sees it all. When I think about what that teaches me about the character of God and the character of the Savior here, we worship beings who know the beginning from the end, who have a plan that is immutable and unchangeable and unconquerable.

00:38:04 [Elder Renlund](#) talked about sometimes when we think about the second coming, we think about this apocalyptic writing. You think about the beasts and the scary things Elder Renlund talked about in the last conference that sometimes we think about the second coming with fear and trepidation, but the person in control of it all is someone who knows the beginning from the end. He knows how to prepare our state. Now, you think about the opposite. Paul says, we look through a glass darkly, so he says, we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face. Now, I know in part, but then shall I know even as I am known, our sea of glass, our Urim and Thummim isn't as clear because we're not where God is. I see what's going on right now. I see what's going on in the moment. I see what's going on in my life, the circumstances I'm in.

00:38:57 I think this is why [President Nelson](#) says if we focus on the Savior, it's more important than the circumstances of our lives because his glass is clear and pure and he knows the beginning from the end. He reveals something about his character in this verse that should give us all confidence and hope. One example of God preparing for this, when we talked about the 116 pages, the loss of those, this all happens kind of at the same time. God's saying to Joseph, Hey, I don't think that's a good idea to let Martin take these. Hey Nephi, you should probably write another record.

John Bytheway: 00:39:39 Amazing.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:39:40 No, Joseph, I don't know that that's a good idea. Hey, Nephi, let's really put another. That's the capacity of the God we worship who sits on a throne on a sea of glass that's a Urim and Thummim that all things before him that all things are taken care of because of him. That's what that verse reveals to me about the Savior.

Hank Smith: 00:40:04 Here's the Lord talking to both Nephi, Mormon and Joseph at the same time. All different time periods. Right? Here's Mormon in 400AD. Here's Nephi in 600BC. Here's Joseph in 1827. He's saying, that's a terrible idea. I love that, Matt. That's a bad idea.

Nephi, you better write that. Mormon you better put that in. Joseph, that's a really bad idea. Nephi you on that? Mormon you putting that in? That is a God you can worship.

- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:40:35 Yeah. What kind of hope does that provide? That our God sits on that throne with that capability? You think about the listeners that are out there that are dealing with difficult things, difficult challenges. That glass seems so dark. How do you connect to the Savior in a way you can see through his glass. My sister had this perspective on life. She shouldn't have. I don't know where she got it from. I think it was just her faith, but I have a sister who passed away two years ago. She got diabetes when she was eight. Didn't really take care of it. All through her teenage years, she's in the hospital and out of the hospital and it's doing all kinds of damage to her body. Those who know what diabetes does, it is terrible. By the time she is in her early twenties, she's starting to take care of herself a little better.
- 00:41:30 She goes on a mission, serves in Fresno. She has to come home early because she gets diabetic retinopathy. That's where the retina detaches. She comes home. She gets a glass eye. She's got this glass eye that they make it so it can track. Eventually her other eye starts to go out too. Well, eventually she's totally blind. She decides that she's going to write books. She starts self-publishing some books and known as the blind author and she ends up having two kids getting married. She loses her kidneys. My brother gives her a kidney. A few years after that, she ends up having to get a pancreas. She's no longer diabetic at the time, but the damage is done to her body. All the things that this sister goes through, and yet I've never met a more joyful, happy, conquer the world person. It just always boggled my mind. I didn't quite understand. She'd have every reason to be bitter and angry and upset. She just wasn't. She had a relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of a bigger picture, a thinking celestial picture that didn't get her mired down in some of the challenges she was going through. I think she trusted in a God who knew the beginning and the end. That's hard to do sometimes. You think about when you're going through it. It's not easy to think that way.
- Hank Smith: 00:43:03 A couple of things here, one Isaiah 55. My ways are not your ways. My thoughts are not your thoughts. He might add, I see things you don't see. You cannot behold with your natural eyes for the present time, the design of your God. You can't see what I see. Matt, you've shown us section 77 and Section 130. I noticed that those are 10 years apart. One thing we can see is that Joseph Smith, he studies the scriptures. I mean, look at this. He's still talking about this same idea that he was asking about

in section 77 10 years later, it's grown. He's learned more about it. He's applying it in different ways. Second, the book of Revelation is helping the saints of the first century understand God. It's helping Joseph and the saints of 1832 understand God, which in turn is helping the saints of 2025 learn about God. That's the incredible thing about scripture. Let's go back to the source here. John is writing to these seven congregations who are all struggling both internally and externally, and the very first message is we have a God who knows everything, who sees everything, who sees the past, the present, and the future. You are in very good hands. We can talk about things, but from the outset we're in very capable hands.

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:44:36 | I love that God expands our vision to say, I've got you. I've always had you and I'll always have you, if you'll have me. I've got you and I always have. Whether it's the church in ancient of days, to my sister, to whatever our listeners are going through right now, if you'll have me, I have you.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:45:06 | We've just done two verses of 77, the few verses in Revelation and you can stop and say, okay, I'm struggling. I'm hurting. I'm confused, but it comes back to that first principle, faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in God, the Eternal Father in his son Jesus Christ. I love the way you started this, Matt. It's not just about understanding the book of Revelation. It's let's get back further to the Lord's character.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:45:36 | Yeah. What I see is he's not a standoffish, disinterested God that created us and walked away and thought, I wonder what's going to happen over there, but he is involved. I keep thinking of Elder Kearon saying, he is in relentless pursuit of us. He's an involved God right here. What we're learning without him saying is I'll reveal things to you. I'll tell you if you ask, we have a God who's willing to talk to us. How nice. Instead of saying, oh, the second comings going to be great and terrible, but I'm not telling you anything. How much nicer to have some expectations to be able to look around and go, whoa. Yep. That was supposed to happen. Yep. That's supposed to happen. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:46:20 | Which actually leads us right into the next two questions and verses because the answers to these tell a lot about what God's desire for us is. We ask two more questions in two and three, but if you're thinking about what it's teaching us about what God's motives are, what the Savior's motives are, what they have always been from the earliest of the ancient of days to now, it gets interesting what these two verses teach us about his motives. As we go through the answers, let's do both questions then the answers, but what did the answers teach us                                                                                                                                   |

about his motive? Here's question number two. What are we to understand by the four beasts spoken of? In the same verse, if we're back in revelation, we asked about the sea of glass, but in those first couple verses, there's some beasts. They're four beasts full of eyes before and behind in verse six. He says, what are these beasts spoken of? In the same verse, the answer, John, you want to read that?

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| John Bytheway:   | 00:47:24 | They are figurative expressions used by the revelator John.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:47:29 | Which means what?                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:47:32 | Figurative means it's symbolic.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:47:33 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:47:34 | They're supposed to represent something. Yep.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:47:38 | They are figurative expressions used by the Revelator John in describing heaven, the paradise of God, the happiness of man and of beasts and of creeping things and of the fowls of the air. Hank is my cat included in here? |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:47:57 | It's definitely not with the happiness of man.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:48:02 | It all depends on what kind of cat you have John.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:48:05 | If you want this cat, you can have it. That which is spiritual being in the likeness of that which is temporal and that which is temporal in the likeness of that which is spiritual. Is everything clear?                    |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:48:19 | Yeah. It's all clear, right?                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:48:20 | Yeah. Yeah. The spirit of man in the likeness of his person as also the spirit of the beast and every other creature which God has created. That's one of those you have to read slow, huh?                                   |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:48:34 | What are you learning about the motives of God? What are the beasts that are in the throne room of God? Well, they're a figurative representation of what?                                                                    |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:48:42 | God's creations.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:48:44 | God's creations, all of his creations, every creation that he's ever made, everything's numbered before him. These beasts represent all the things that God loves and that God is                                             |

interested in and that he's invested in. Now it's important. Verse three, are the four beasts limited to individual beasts or do they represent classes or orders learned that they're figurative now? He says they're limited to four individual beasts, which are shown to John to represent the glory of the classes of beings in their destined orders or sphere of creation in the enjoyment of their eternal felicity. So I think you have to do those two verses together because what is it teaching you about the motives of God, the God in this throne room, who knows the beginning and the end. What does he teach you about his motives with all of his creations wherever they are? What do you think?

- John Bytheway: 00:49:49 I just underlined in verse two, the happiness of man. Whoa. Really? That's what he's concerned about. The answer in verse three, the enjoyment of the eternal felicity. I'm hearing man is that he might have joy. I'm hearing what is the end of all of this? Hank, do you remember our discussion with Dr. Geritt, Dirkmaat about a God who's angry with us and abhors us, the teachings of some of what Joseph Smith must have heard, and then you see this. He actually wants, has planned for and prepared for our happiness.
- Hank Smith: 00:50:27 Yeah. I'm seeing here, Matt, that God, like you said, verse two, they represent his creations, his investment, his work. What Joseph is asking in verse three is, is it all the same to him? Yeah, and he's saying, no, no, no, no, no. Each one is in their order or sphere of creation. I have almost priorities with my creations. I want them all to enjoy eternal felicity, but that doesn't mean they're all the same.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:50:57 Yep. In whatever sphere or order they're created in, but they all have a measure of their creation to be fulfilled. That'll be an eternal felicity, whatever that looks like for that creation. Yep. But his purpose is eternal felicity for all that he's created.
- John Bytheway: 00:51:23 How nice is that to hear.
- Hank Smith: 00:51:25 To know the character of God? Yeah.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:51:28 You think about these verses again in that context that we talked about, if this was all the verses that we ever had to study, wow. God reveals in each chapter his character and his motives. We've talked about a little bit about his character. Well, the next couple verses are going to reveal his power to do it. Going back to those other verses, you think of second Nephi 2:25, Adam fell that men might be, and men are that they might have joy. That word joy, it's in the footnote there of second Nephi

2:25. It's the only place I've ever found a definition for the word joy. It is defined there as the potential to become like God.

00:52:19 If you think about that that's what joy is. Christ in Hebrews says, the joy that was set before him is what allowed him to suffer. Our potential to become like the Father is that joy that allowed him to go through what he went through. But if joy is a potential to become like God, I can be suffering right now and it doesn't change my joy. I can be having a bad hair day from the simplest to the worst suffering that's out there because of verses two and three, because of what we've learned about God so far, my joy is intact. I just have to learn to trust in this being that is the creator of heaven and earth.

Hank Smith: 00:53:06 Yeah. I really love this so far. I haven't read this section like this in the past, where the Lord is setting up with using Revelation chapter four, describing the plan of salvation, the why behind the plan of salvation. Now, you said we're going to get to the how and who. Who are these people that he is so interested in? Who are these 24 elders, these seven churches? Why is he so interested in them?

Dr. Matt Hinton: 00:53:39 What is he going to do? We're going to get down and do eight through 11, but what is he going to do? What is his purpose in eight through 11? Who's going to do it? Who's going to fulfill it, and who's he going to use to make that happen to carry out the salvation of all of his children? What's... it's fascinating to watch him reveal himself in these simple questions that Joseph asks. He outlines so much of his purposes. I don't know if Joseph was specific to these questions or whatever. These questions particularly outline what God is doing and started doing with these ancient of days, the ancient churches. What was he trying to do? He was trying to gather them. He was trying to strengthen them. He was trying to bring them hope and peace, and he was trying to help them find solace and trusting in what they have been taught not being lost in the world that they were getting wrapped up in.

00:54:37 That's what he is doing in this chapter. He's revealing himself and what his plan is. Quick summary of four. You notice that he's got some questions about the eyes and wings. It's pretty clear their eyes are representation of the light and knowledge that is, they're full of knowledge, they're wings are representation of power to move and act. These creations, they have the capability of intelligence and light and knowledge and the power to act for themselves to choose, but it's also revealing a little bit about God. He has these beasts. If you look at it in the number of wings and things like that. Christ has

perfect power and perfect knowledge. God has that perfect understanding to help us fulfill the measure of our creation, which is what we just talked about. Then we get five where, what do we understand by the four and 20 elders? We are to understand, these are the elders whom John saw. This is a specific group of people. These are the 24 elders that have been faithful in the seven churches. I don't know whether they've been martyred or whatever that has looked like they have been faithful in the ministry and are in the paradise of God. That's chapter four. We've been revealed. Now we go to chapter five. Let's go to the revelation for chapter five.

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| Hank Smith:      | 00:56:05 | I love Revelation five. If you want to learn about Jesus Christ and who he is, this is a great chapter to learn about Him.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:56:14 | There's some powerful things right here. So let's just start in chapter five, verse one. We're going to go down a little ways. Joseph doesn't ask as many questions. We get just a couple of questions here with six and seven. We're going to read a little bit in Revelation five because it's Hank's favorite. John, do you want to start verses one and two and maybe Hank three and four? Then we'll get down to five. |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:56:43 | Sure. Okay. Revelation chapter five, verse one, and I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne, a book written within and on the backside sealed with seven seals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:56:58 | Remember, we're in the throne room that God that we've just talked about sitting on this throne, and he's got a book in his hand. Okay, keep going.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:57:06 | And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, who is worthy to open the book and to loose the seals thereof?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:57:15 | Would you have wanted to be in this room? What would this have been like?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:57:18 | It's not so difficult. Someone might read this and go, I'm lost. You're not really as lost as you think. Think of God with his plan of salvation and asking who will play the role of redeemer?                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 00:57:32 | Yeah. Who's going to make this happen?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:57:35 | Who's going to make this plan happen?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:57:37 | The book is this plan. We're going to learn that in just a minute. Who's going to make this book? Who's going to fulfill this?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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| Hank Smith:      | 00:57:44 | Who actually is out there that can play this crucial role in this plan? In these next verses, you see that John is upset because there's no man in heaven. Now we're under the earth. We even looked under it. . . There is nobody who could open the book to look thereon. I wept much because no man was found worthy to open the, read the book neither look thereon. There is nobody with this kind of capability who can do what is going to be asked of the redeemer of this plan. And that means, look, I weep much. Doesn't that mean I have nowhere to turn now. I cannot progress because there's no one who can play that role. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:58:27 | We cannot fulfill the measure of our creation that God we just talked about in these creations that he has. There's got to be someone with the power and the wisdom we learn from the wings and the eyes that can open this book, fulfill this plan and make it happen. Verse five, go ahead, Hank. I know you're excited about these verses Hank.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:58:49 | I get weird about this. There's John. He's weeping. I'm never going to progress. One of these elders says, you can stop crying. Weep not. Behold the lion of the tribe of Judah, he is going to open the book and loose the seals thereof. But interesting. Both of you. He looks to see a lion, but he doesn't see a lion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:59:16 | If you were just to stop in verse five, you think, okay, what is John going to draw? If he's going to put a picture, you're going to see Aslan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:59:24 | Coming in. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:59:27 | Right. You're going to see each tribe had their banner and on the tribe of Judah, that lion banner.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:59:34 | And he's going to come save the world. This hero, this king of the jungle. The lion.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 00:59:39 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Hank Smith:      | 00:59:40 | But he doesn't see a lion. He turns and sees the lamb. A slain lamb has seven horns and seven eyes. We talked about that being the eyes are light and knowledge. He's got seven. He's got perfect light knowledge. He's got perfect power. He comes in verse seven. He, I would say, accepts his role. Here am I send me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:00:06 | Can you just feel the hope in the world go up wherever I am, whatever it is, the hope, whether it's the seven churches,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

whether it's Joseph's day, whether it's our day, the hope that goes up, when the slain lamb as it had been slain, that Greek word slain, slaughtered having seven horns and seven eyes. Now [Dr. Frederick](#) has an article where he compared six, six commentaries, and one of the things I thought was really interesting about this commentaries, about this verse says this, it's from Beale. The book in chapter five should be understood as a covenantal promise of an inheritance when seen in the light of the above two identifications of the book and of the broader theological context of the apocalypse concerning paradise lost and paradise regained. You think about covenant confidence. You hear when [President Nelson's](#) talking about what gives us covenant confidence and what gives us this book is a covenantal promise. When the Savior says, here am I, God has made a covenant to save his children. The Savior took it upon himself to fulfill that, to make that covenant possible, to make that promise possible, to be fulfilled without him, without the lamb. There's no way.

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| Hank Smith:      | 01:01:52 | That's why you feel that of John weeping. I wept much. There's no other way. Unless the Lord steps up. Unless the Savior says, I will do it, we are all stuck.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:02:07 | He says, don't weep, don't cry wherever you are. Don't cry. There is a Savior. There is a Savior.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:02:16 | I'm going to try to summarize this because I've never seen this before, but if we were to take the first four questions, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. You could put these into groups. One through four is almost, we believe in God. Five through seven is God's plan. Eight through 11 is really the gospel and us. Then 12 through the rest is the second coming and the restoration and the second coming. He's going to make this all happen. Oh my word. This isn't random. These aren't random questions. These are holy cow.      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:03:01 | We said, what questions would you have if you read this? Well, Joseph asked specific questions. These specific questions lead us to the character, power, and plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:03:12 | Matt, I am loving this, as you can tell, like my heart is beating. I am pretty excited. I'm seeing something that I think is correct. Let me run this by both of you. When I look at section 77, initially, I might just see a bunch of random questions about the Book of Revelation and say, we don't really need to cover this. It's just a bunch of questions about the book of Revelation. But Matt, as you're laying this out, I'm seeing the first four questions we learn about God, who he is and what his motives |

are, five through seven, his plan of salvation, eight through 11, you're showing us is his gospel and our role in that. If we were to keep going, he would talk about the tribes of Israel, sealing the tribes of Israel, right to him. Then you've got 12 through basically the rest saying, the second coming, he will finish his plan. He will return. These are not random questions. They're an outline of the gospel, the simplicity of the gospel. This is beautiful.

- Dr. Matt Hinton: 01:04:25 Yeah. It's marvelous to me. You just summarize, if you go back eight through 11, this is about these angels that God has to send to the world. Yet there's one that says, wait, we're not going to hurt anybody yet. Don't do anything because we've got to restore all things. We've got to get this gospel to everybody. We've got to let everybody know the good news that we just learned about our Savior, Jesus Christ, that the lamb has been slain. He's opening this book and he's carrying out God's plan. You go down to 10 and 11, who's going to help with this? When is it going to happen? It's going to happen in this 6,000 years, but who's going to help? It's going to be these 144,000 who are missionaries and high priests, gatherers that are going to go out and gather. If President Nelson's looking at this, he's saying, we're in this gathering. Sometimes we look at the second coming and we think of it like, oh no, there's all this bad.
- 01:05:32 There's wickedness. I look at these verses and I think there is so much going on that's amazing. We had temples and gathering, and [President Nelson](#) says in the last conference that we have spiritual momentum and more youth going out, and he's announced 200 temples since he's become a prophet. We look at the world. Sometimes we can get so lost in the scary, but God is working a marvelous work and a wonder, Joseph outlines it for us, or John the Revelator outlines it for us. God says, Joseph, here's the big picture of what's going to happen. You're going to be part of it. There's 2000 members at this time.
- Hank Smith: 01:06:18 Yeah. He asks the perfect questions. It's almost as if the Holy Ghost is saying, Ooh, ask this one. Ask this one, because we're going to lay out the plan of salvation from beginning to end in 15 questions about the Book of Revelation. I mean.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 01:06:36 Is that remarkable?
- Hank Smith: 01:06:38 Section 77 has just opened up to me.
- John Bytheway: 01:06:42 What we're seeing here, we've discovered it before, is every once in a while there are things that are hidden in plain sight. I love that phrase. It's always been there, but you've never seen

it before. We just saw a sequence, an orderliness. I like this word. Sometimes an elegance to some of the ways that God reveals things. You go, I've missed that, but it's got, what have I heard you say, Hank? Well, you said the pen of heaven about eloquence, but I'm talking about elegant symmetry. You see it and you think, Ooh, look at that. This is orderly. There's a reason this was revealed in this order. I like what you said, Hank. Okay, now ask this question, because we're following a sequence here.

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| Hank Smith:      | 01:07:28 | Matt, I wish I could express what's in my heart here, especially that gathering of Israel. Here he is. Look at the very end of the answer for verse 11. I'm going to use Israel to bring as many as will to come to the church of the firstborn to come into this covenant. As many as want to before the end.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:07:49 | If you go to Jacob five.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:07:51 | So I was going to say, I knew.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:07:53 | Yeah, you were going there. Weren't you?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:07:55 | I was going. I even wrote it down Jacob five, where he says, let's burn the whole thing. No, let's go one more time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:08:02 | Yep.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:08:03 | One more time. You can tell we've been friends for a long time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:08:07 | Yeah. Think about this. There's an important wording here when it comes to Jacob 5 that I think is really, really important. You look at verse 65, Jacob five, so this is talking about the last gathering that's happening. As they begin to grow, they've grafted the natural branches back into the tree that have been spread out. They're, this is the last time they're nourishing. They're trying to save the tree. Listen to this, and they begin to grow. You shall clear away the branches, which bring forth bitter fruit according to the strength of the good and the size thereof, and you shall not clear away the bad thereof all at once. Lest the roots thereof should be too strong for the graft and the grafter of shall perish, and I lose the trees of my vineyard for it grieveth me that I should lose the trees of my vineyard. Wherefore, you shall clear away the bad according as the good shall grow. |

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| Hank Smith:      | 01:09:11 | It's a careful, slow, deliberate pacing. It can't go too fast or too big all at once. We'll lose everyone if we do that. I love the slow, steady, deliberate, healthy, measured growth.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:09:26 | Sometimes when we think about this second coming, you're thinking about apocalypse. It's not fearful. If you recognize all the the good that is growing, the good that is being done, the gathering that is happening, what God has prophesied through John the Revelator here, that we're going to have 144,000 of the tribe of Israel, these angels that have the gospel to go to all the world, that everyone who wants it is going to be able to participate. Your son that's going out on a mission here soon, and we're going to get to this in a minute with the missionary calls here. <a href="#">Elder Holland</a> has a statement where he says, if you can't get excited about that kind of opportunity, you can't get excited. |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:10:12 | Excited. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:10:13 | Studying this has shown me that we worship a God who wants to save every one of his creations, and he's provided a plan through his son, Jesus Christ, the lamb, the slain lamb, that all who will can be gathered to his covenant because he is coming again.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Hank Smith:      | 01:10:33 | Coming up in part two of this episode.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 01:10:37 | We covenant to have our hearts different, to be different, not just do different, but be different, to think and act and be like the Lord in how we view other people. That's why I wanted to start with Mosiah, because that's the sign that we've obtained a remission of our sins. Why is retaining a remission of our sins connected to what we do for others? Those two great commandments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |



- John Bytheway: 00:00 Keep listening for part two with Dr. Matt Hinton.
- Hank Smith: 00:04 Matt, John, how many times have we talked about how much fun we have doing this? One of my favorite things, this would shock my 16-year-old self, to be honest. One of my favorite things in life is having both books of scripture open, going back and forth. I got my fingers in a couple different places, to mark those. I've got a pencil over in 130. I've got a great teacher helping me walk through it. To me, that is heaven. Disneyland. I have much more fun doing this than almost anything. I love watching sports on tv, I love watching a good movie, but they don't compare to an experience like this. They don't.
- John Bytheway: 00:43 Somebody shows you something in a book you've seen before many times that you want to understand. Yeah, that's the best. There's folks out there listening who have family members who have wandered, are aching because they are not having the same feast that we are having. Please listen to what's happening here. This is a Q and A. Well, Jacob 5 is the A. At the end of Jacob 4 is the Q and the Q is, well, how will people who reject Christ ever build on him? Jacob five answers it, and Hank the Lord's slow. He's deliberate. He's careful, he's patient. Get some hope from that. What if it's really true? I believe it is what [Elder Kearon](#) said, that God is in relentless pursuit of your loved ones. Then get a dose of hope from this, from all of what we've been talking about. Now, he is able to do his work. We are learning that today. Another time we're learning, hey, I am able to do my work. We can breathe a sigh of relief for our loved ones that we ache for.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 01:59 When I served as Bishop, one of the things I learned the most was God is really patient. God is really patient. Sometimes it's the timing of the work in the vineyard.
- John Bytheway: 02:14 The waiting that happens in the Zenos's allegory. We don't talk about that. It's a parable of waiting and letting the Lord of the vineyard decide when he's going to come and prune.

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 02:27 | Sometimes just in building the right relationships. This is that whole idea to me again, of God knowing the past, present and the future. He puts people in places to meet the right people. He puts us in our orbit so we cross at the right paths and the right times. When I was bishop, I was bishop for those people. I met this guy. I drove past his house. I was on the way to play elders quorum basketball. The Holy Ghost was like, you should stop. Help him put his sprinkler system in, and I was like, no, I'm going to play elders quorum basketball, and I got down to the stop sign and it was like, go back and help him with his sprinkler system. I'm like, no. So I got to the next stop sign. Finally, it's like, okay, go back. Help the guy with his sprinkling system. He and I became really good friends. 20 years later, I became his bishop and helped he and his family come back to the church. God's working, sees it all. Let's be patient. Let's not lose hope for our loved ones. Let's not lose hope for those people that we care about, because God is really good at what he does, and the Savior is perfect at what he does. |
| John Bytheway:   | 03:42 | They've got the long view that we don't see. When you see past, present, future.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Hank Smith:      | 03:47 | That's quite a long view.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 03:49 | Yeah, that's longer than waiting in In and Out. When you talk about Nephi, you better make a second record.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Hank Smith:      | 03:59 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| John Bytheway:   | 04:00 | I love that. How does he do that long view thing? If he can do that, we can say, okay, please take care of my family, Lord, please take care of my family. Have some faith and trust in him that he will.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:      | 04:11 | Yeah. Yeah. He's probably saying, oh, I'm taking care of you too.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| John Bytheway:   | 04:15 | Yeah. Yeah. You're one of my headaches too.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 04:18 | And here's the other thing. This is my work and my glory to bring to pass the immortality, eternal life of man. Sometimes we think God has a day job like he's gone to work. He comes home and he is like, okay, got to deal with this. Now I get to work on bringing to pass the immortality, eternal life of man. Well, that's all he does, and he's really good at it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:      | 04:42 | Really good at it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 04:44 | We just get to be some of the servants in the vineyard.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Hank Smith:      | 04:47 | Do your part, lift where you stand. When we lose hope for our loved ones, I think the Lord would find that a touch hurtful where he would say, wait, you really think they can out sin my love? They can out wander my sight? Don't you trust me? Yes. They have to follow their own path just as each of us do, but the Lord's walking that journey with them. I cannot believe that I saw Section 77 as a series of, hmm. Questions and answers about the book of Revelation, kind of random. Joseph was interested in this and he was interested in this. All of a sudden, you see, no. Not only was the Lord guiding the answers, he was guiding the questions. He lays out the plan of salvation, something to get excited about. It's just unbelievable. |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 05:38 | If this was the only section of scripture that you had, you could know God. You could know his plan. You could see if this was all you had, you could still be part of God's plan and know what it is. I love that about scripture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Hank Smith:      | 05:57 | Yeah. I want to say to all of our listeners out there, if you really loved getting into the book of Revelation a little bit, we did three episodes last year on the Book of Revelation. We'll link those in the show notes. Once you're done with Dr. Hinton here, go back and listen to those. You will find a lot of this same excitement. Matt, that was wonderful, but we do have other sections to cover. What do you want to do? What do you want to do next?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 06:22 | When you think about learning and how to help somebody learn something, that's what I think about a lot now as I'm a teacher trainer. One of those things is when I'm thinking about being Christ-centered, what does this reveal about the Savior? I think we're going to find something similar here in 78, but there's also another really important thing. We've talked about it a little bit. What's the problem? What's the problem that exists that creates the need? I found that the more real the problem is, the more critical the solution becomes.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Hank Smith:      | 06:56 | Hmm, okay. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 06:57 | When I have a real problem, then I need that answer. A lot of what Joseph does is there's a real problem. I have to seek a revelation to figure out how to solve that problem. That's sometimes how to help with scripture study. When I can identify the real problem, the need I have, scripture becomes more powerful to me as I study it. I want us to think about what is the real problem, the real challenge behind 78. Now 78, we                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

can talk about the temporal challenge, which is the church is trying to figure out how to manage its resources that there's some issues. There's been a literary firm established back in Section 70 where for the publication of scripture, we need to publish the revelations. We need to figure out how to do that and try to set up a printing press. Yet we need money to buy land.

07:58 We need money to build buildings on that land. We've got to take care of the temporal needs of the church and we've got to take care of the poor. We're going to do this all under the revelation or the principles of consecration. We're going to live these principles of consecration. We've got to figure out how to solve this problem. Now, I want to take a little different approach to this if it's okay with you guys because I think there's a bigger problem that we're trying to figure out, and I think this is what God's really trying to do and he's going to reveal something about himself here, but we've got to go to Mosiah first. Are you guys okay going to the Book of Mormon?

John Bytheway: 08:39 Well, okay.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 08:42 King Benjamin sermon Mosiah four. I think it has something to do with 78. I hope I'm not making a stretch here, but I think this is the bigger problem God's trying to solve. In the first 10 verses of Mosiah four, what you're seeing is a people who are seeing themselves as the dust of the earth in their own carnal state. In verse two oh, have mercy and apply the atoning blood of Christ that we may receive forgiveness of our sins and our hearts may be purified for we believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God who created the heaven and the earth and all things who shall come down among the children of men. Verse three, and it came to pass that after they had spoken these words, the spirit of the Lord came unto them and they were filled with joy having received a remission of their sins and having peace of conscious because of the exceeding faith which they had in Jesus Christ, which should come according to the words which King Benjamin had spoken unto them.

09:51 One of the problems that God's trying to solve in this is he wants us to obtain a remission of our sins, which we learned about this plan in 77, but there's another word at play here. We obtain a remission of our sins. He uses the word in Mosiah, retain a remission of our sins. Let me give you just a couple of verses. Verse 12 and behold, I say unto you that if you do this, you shall always rejoice and be filled with the love of God. If you believe in God, you repent, you obtain this remission of your sins, you are going to be filled with the love of God and always

retain a remission of your sins. You shall grow in the knowledge of the glory of him that created you or in the knowledge of that which is just and true, but the next verses are all that's going to happen if you do this, if we retain our remission of our sins, everything that's going to happen is this.

10:49 Look at verse 13. You will not have a mind to injure one another but to live peaceable. You will not suffer your children they go hungry or naked and neither shall you suffer they transgress the laws of God or quarrel. Right? Verse 16, and you yourselves will succor those who stand in need of your succor, you administer of your substance unto him that standeth in need. You'll not suffer the beggar to put up his petition to you in vain. If you jump down to verse 26 and now for the sake of these things which I have spoken unto you, that is for the sake of retaining a remission of your sins from day to day that you walk guiltless before God, I would that you should impart of your substance to the poor. Every man according to that which he hath, such as feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and administering to their relief both spiritually and temporally according to their wants.

11:51 There's a bigger problem that God's trying to accomplish in Section 78 or solve in section 78. The bigger challenge is how do I take this group of people that are brand new to my gospel, that are brand new to this new and everlasting covenant that are just learning about all of these new doctrines, new challenges? How do I make them a Zion people? How do I create a, not just take care of the temporal needs, but how do I make a celestial people? Section 78 is going to teach us a little bit about the principles. If we go to 78, you're going to see a couple things in the verses that God's really interested in. This is for the glory of God. This is for the salvation. Look at verse two, that salvation may be unto you. Verse four, to the salvation of man and to the glory of your Father.

12:56 He's going to take a group of people. He's got to figure out how do I help them obtain a remission of their sins and retain a remission of their sins by how they treat each other, and how do I take care of the church at the same time? That's a big problem. How am I going to do it in two places? How am I going to do it in Missouri? How am I going to do it in Kirtland and create a people that don't want to injure one another that are willing to give of their all? This is a big task. Those who've been to the temple, in what space do we even covenant to keep the law of consecration? It's actually in a higher level space. It's a higher law. It doesn't make sense to a telestial world. It doesn't make sense to the earth we're living in, to not try to be better

than everybody else, to not try to one up everybody. We live in a world that doesn't make sense to say, let's create a society that everyone is cared for and taken care of. It's amazing to me, these early saints who did that. Newell K. Whitney, Edward Partridge, these are remarkable saints that learn these lessons. That's the bigger problem that we deal with is God's trying to say, how do I make a Zion people not just solve a temporal problem? How do I make a Zion people?

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| Hank Smith:      | 14:41 | He's got his end goal in mind.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 14:43 | Yeah, because he is revealing something about himself to us.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Hank Smith:      | 14:47 | This is my work and my glory to exalt my children, to have them choose to be exalted. If the Lord wanted to just solve these temporal problems, he'd be simple answers and he would just go ahead and do it himself. He has the capability. We already said he sits on a throne looking at a sea of glass, knowing past, present, future. It goes back to what we've said how many times, John, it's not just getting people out of poverty. It's getting poverty out of people, spiritual poverty, out of people. John, we've said it before, it's kind of like the Lord is playing 5D chess and all the pieces have agency. Somehow he is able to maneuver this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| John Bytheway:   | 15:31 | You could be a dictator. Take everything from those who have and spread everything out equally among this small group, but have you changed any hearts? It all starts with that. I think King Benjamin too is talking after you have had Christ with you, you don't have a mind to injure one another. Your hearts are changed, and if you want to retain that, take care of the poor. That's really cool.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 15:56 | Yeah. God doesn't want a bunch of people in his kingdom because he wants them in his kingdom. He wants people to be in his kingdom because they want to be in his kingdom. He could get us all there, but it wouldn't mean anything. If I don't think like he thinks, I don't have a heart like his, I'm not going to be comfortable there. Anyway, he is trying to give us his kingdom, and at the same time he is trying to say, well, you've got to become the kingdom. If you don't become the kingdom, it doesn't mean anything. The earth has been utterly wasted. The problems are both spiritual and temporal. The principles he is going to teach in 78 actually are very spiritual in nature. What is it that he's trying to really establish? Let's just jump into a couple of verses, and this is where we get John's description, verse two, and listen to the counsel of him who has ordained |

you from on high, who shall speak to your ears, the words of wisdom. John, there you go.

Hank Smith: 17:06

There he is.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 17:09

That salvation may be unto you in that thing which you have presented before me, this isn't just about solving a temporal problem. There's a salvation problem here that I'm trying to help you see.

17:27

For verily, I say unto you, the time has come and is now at hand and behold and lo, it must needs be there be an organization of my people in regulating and establishing the fares of the storehouse for the poor of my people, both in this place and in the land of Zion. There's got to be something that helps not only facilitate temporal needs, but spiritual needs. They're tied together, but I'm really going to establish something that's going to be for the salvation of men of my kingdom.

John Bytheway: 18:04

There's all sorts of worldly ways to approach problems like this, and I love what you're showing us is watch how the Lord does this. Here's the full statement from [President Ezra Taft Benson](#), October '85 general conference. The Lord works from the inside out. The world works from the outside in. The world would take people out of the slums. Christ takes the slums out of people, and then they take themselves out of the slums. The world would mold men by changing their environment. Christ changes men who then change their environment. The world would shape human behavior, but Christ can change human nature. That's what you were saying, is there's a bigger problem here than haves and have nots. Well, Hank, how many times have we talked about the place of Zion, the cause of Zion, then being Zion. Pure heart, pure mind, pure love of Christ.

Hank Smith: 19:04

John. The world's ways will not work. They will not work. I read the other day that the countries of the earth, the ones with more wealth, have sent \$3 trillion, \$3 trillion to Africa to solve poverty. We still have poverty, abundant poverty. What the church is doing with we're going to feed, we're going to educate, we're going to help, the Lord's way. I'm going to transform you from the inside out. That statement from President Benson has become more and more clear to me as I've watched the world work.

John Bytheway: 19:46

I have another one if you guys will indulge me. I believe [Sister Sharon Eubank](#) is brilliant.

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| Hank Smith:      | 19:55 | Yeah, she is.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John Bytheway:   | 19:57 | She gave a talk at a BYU Idaho Forum called The Sacred Life of Trees. She said, I'm occasionally asked, why doesn't the church spend more money on humanitarian work? Why doesn't it stop building expensive temples and focus its resources on relieving the poor? This is a legitimate question for the Church of Jesus Christ, but is it money that solves society's ills? The world has poured \$2 trillion into addressing chronic issues in Africa. Why isn't the situation better? Because money isn't really the issue. Lasting progress comes through trusted relationships, infrastructure, reducing corruption. These are human heart problems and the ability of people to work together. Money doesn't necessarily create those things. They must be developed alongside the resources and frankly, it's much harder work. Back to Sister Eubank. I will never discount the one thing this church does that lifts entire communities in rapid development. It invites men and women of all social classes and backgrounds to enter sacred buildings and make the most binding and important promises of their mortal lives. |
|                  | 21:10 | In those buildings, they promise not to steal or lie. They promise to be faithful to their spouse and children. They vow they will seek the interest of their neighbors and be peacemakers and become devoted to the idea that we are all one family, all valued and alike unto God. If those promises made in holy temples are kept, it transforms society faster than any aid or development project ever could. The greatest charitable development on the planet is for people to bind themselves to their God and mean it. Thank goodness the church builds 335 temples and counting. It is the greatest poverty alleviation system in the world.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 21:54 | Oh my. That's beautiful John.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John Bytheway:   | 21:57 | Brilliant statement from Sister Eubank. Wow. Society benefits when people believe they're accountable to God. All of society does.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Hank Smith:      | 22:08 | Yep. That's what this section is about, right, Matt?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 22:11 | Yeah. When we talk about creating a united firm to help manage the printing of scripture, printing of the word of God, so we can get the word of God in people's hearts because the word of God changes people. We can build buildings where people can make covenants, where people can covenant with their God to live a higher way, a different way, a celestial way. We've got to do that, and I think that's what God's really doing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

here. I mean, let's look at a couple of the verses, verse four. You want to pick up Hank and read four? We'll just go from there.

Hank Smith: 22:55

Absolutely. Verse four, this is section 78 for a permanent and everlasting establishment, an order unto my church to advance the cause which ye have espoused to the salvation of man and to the glory of your Father who is in heaven.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 23:12

This is about salvation. This is about the glory of God, which is to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man. This is not about just a temporal fix. This is about creating something everlasting and permanent, and it has to be from inside. It has to be something that's changed in us. You think about guys that are part of this, like Newel K. Whitney. You guys have been to that ashery. You've been to that sawmill. That guy could have been the most wealthy man in all of Ohio, in all of maybe even the United States at the time because he was selling his ash to Europe, \$50 a barrel, \$200 a barrel. Yet there was something in his heart that said, this isn't about me. This isn't about me. This is about what I can do for God's kingdom and this is about what? What I can give, and that guy could have had everything.

24:20

Edward Partridge, Sidney Gilbert, these guys that are part of this united firm, verse five, that ye may be equal in the bonds of heavenly things, yea and earthly things also for the obtaining of heavenly things, right? This isn't about earthly things for if you are not equal in earthly things, you cannot be equal in obtaining heavenly things. For if ye will that I give unto you a place in the celestial world. Ye must prepare yourselves by doing the things which I have commanded you and require of you.

Hank Smith: 25:06

Man, that is beautiful, which they just learned about. The celestial world.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 25:12

Now. They need the temporal aspect. They've got some financial issues. This is, if we're putting this in their context, they're struggling. They're trying to figure out how to take what we just learned in 77 and make it a reality. God's saying, okay, there's some temporal things to do here.

25:30

We're going to create this organization called the [United Firm](#) that's going to combine all the literary and mercantiles. Basically take all the organizations a co-op of businesses and we're going to put them together. You're going to have little pieces of it. You're still going to manage it. You're going to be able to live off it, but all the surplus is going to buy land. Get the printing press set up in Missouri to help buy land in Missouri for the settlement of the saints to help so we can build the temple. We

can bring this new and everlasting covenant to fruition. because I'm trying to give you a celestial world.

- Hank Smith: 26:12 So much bigger. Yeah.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 26:13 So much bigger. Look at verse nine. Or in other words, let my servant Newel K. Whitney, my servant Joseph Smith, Jr. my servant Sidney Rigdon, sit in council with the saints that are in Zion. Otherwise, Satan seeketh to turn the hearts away from the truth. You think about the people that struggled in Kirtland because it was about money when it wasn't ever about money. We're going to get to a guy, [Stephen Burnett](#). He gets a mission call, but Joseph basically says to him, this guy's heart's set on money. There's so many people that it was about money that they lost sight of what it was really about, which was changing their hearts.
- Hank Smith: 27:02 I can see this over and over though. Now that you're showing it to us, Matt, this, there's a much bigger issue at hand here, guys, your salvation. That's verse two. Heavenly things. Verse five, a place in the celestial world. He's saying these earthly things are important because they're going to enable us to get to the bigger issue. But if you stop on the earthly things, it's not going to happen.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 27:29 Satan's going to change your heart. What is he going to change it from? Look at that verse, away from the truth. Well, what's the truth? The truth is God is doing a much bigger work.
- Hank Smith: 27:43 They'll make it about money.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 27:46 Yep. Many are called few are chosen. Why are they not chosen? Because they aspire to the honors of men and seek after the things of the world. You can see that there's some challenges to this too. Now we're talking about, okay, I'm going to give my surplus and saints struggle with this. I mean, you look at Oliver Cowdery, some of the challenges that happened down in Missouri are part of being in the United Firm doing things with property that aren't part of this covenant. Look at verse 11, wherefore a commandment I give unto you to prepare and organize yourself by a bond of everlasting covenant that cannot be broken. He who breaketh it shall lose his office and standing in the church and shall be delivered over to the buffetings of Satan until the day of redemption. Behold, this is the preparation wherewith I prepare you and the foundation and the ensample that I give unto you whereby you may accomplish the commandments which are given you that through my providence, notwithstanding the tribulation which shall descend

upon you, the church may stand independent above all other creatures beneath the celestial world. We're talking about, if you go down to verse 21, the Church of the Firstborn, we're talking about a celestial church. We're talking about the celestial kingdom church here that God's trying to create. You're laughing John, what are... what? Tell me what you're thinking.

- John Bytheway: 29:26 We've got a planet marinating in telestialness. I'm going to try to make you a celestial people. That seems to be the challenge here. How do I create that out of this? It's going to start with hearts first. That's what made me laugh. I thought, how do you do that?
- Hank Smith: 29:42 And not only that, I'm going to write this revelation in a way that the future saints can also do these same things.
- John Bytheway: 29:49 Well, that's what, I laughed when it said, that the church may stand independent above this telestial world above all other creatures beneath the celestial. They're looking down asking us to step it up.
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 30:02 This doesn't go well. I mean. This united firm lasted till 1834 and then it's disbanded. We lose the property in Missouri. They're driven out. We lose the store. We lose the print shop. I mean, we lose all of this. We're in debt. It doesn't work. Then there's humanness to it. We start feeling like we're losing our land and our things, there's this possessiveness that comes into us and it's ours. Now we're no longer a steward. This thing that God's trying to do in me isn't happening.
- Hank Smith: 30:39 And he's so patient.
- John Bytheway: 30:41 Yeah. because I don't want to sit here laughing at these people when I'm sure I'm one of them. I'm one of them. I know this is me. I'd probably be right there going, well, can I keep this?
- Dr. Matt Hinton: 30:54 Well, let's put it into our world. For them, this was real. This was every day. This was survival. This was, I can't pay for the land that the temple's on. I'm going to lose the mortgage. We're being driven out of Jackson County. All this land that we've purchased is gone. I'm losing everything, but the prophet said it was going to be okay. Ooh. We put ourselves in this situation.
- John Bytheway: 31:25 I think of the Newel K. Whitneys that had this sense of how to make something out of nothing. He could do it and he gives it all up. You just got to love [Newel K. Whitney](#). You have to admire him. It's humbling to think about what he was asked to do.

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| Hank Smith:      | 31:43 | Yeah. Newel K. Whitney and Elizabeth Ann Whitney are the heroes of the restoration. Just like Edward and Lydia Partridge, you're going how? But they became internally.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 31:54 | So many other saints that we're not naming. There are so many other saints who have given their life everything that God has blessed them with to the kingdom of God.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| John Bytheway:   | 32:09 | You fast forward beyond the Doctrine and Covenants. You've got people that are pretty well to-do building handcarts for everybody else, crossing with what they could pull and that's it.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 32:23 | Because God changes people from the inside out.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| John Bytheway:   | 32:27 | The inside out. Yep.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 32:29 | What do they know about God? What has God revealed to them that makes them more willing? What do they know? What covenant relationship do they have that allows them to not be blinded by the things of the world? I look at my stake president, the time that he gives. I look at the ministers in the ward. You look at the church and the time that is given by people, the missionaries that give of their effort and their time and their energy. The bishops and the elders quorums presidents and the relief society presidents and everybody who something inside them says, I am going to give all my time and my talents and abilities to the building up of the kingdom of God. That's what the law of consecration is really about. Now, the United Firm and the organization, it doesn't exist today. It disbanded, but does the church have an organization, an ability that runs a similar type? Absolutely. Organization that blesses the entire world, that builds temples, that educates, that provides humanitarian aid, that responds to disaster, that donates clothing. This organization is still in place in a way just managed a lot better. |
| Hank Smith:      | 34:06 | Yeah. By the way, it still has the bigger issues in mind. Yes these are all temporal things. There's a way to implement them, but the church you'll notice is not just about temporal helps. It's about I want to prepare you for heavenly things, for salvation, for a place in the celestial world. Sometimes we can get a little frustrated that this isn't happening faster. Do more. Happen faster. Well, look at the Lord in verse 17. You're little, you don't understand. You cannot bear all things now. I will lead you along. The patience of that because He says, Satan's going to make it about money. In verse 10, look at verse 18. I'm about the riches of eternity. So much bigger.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 34:56 | I looked at that verse 17, what's the other place where the Savior says children? There's one. There's another place after Christ has ascended, Peter says, I go fishing. They're back on the boat. He says children, he calls them children. They come to the shore and he says, Peter, there's 153 fish. This is how I visualize it. He holds up one. He says, Peter, do you love me more than this fish? |
| Hank Smith:      | 35:29 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 35:30 | Peter says, well, of course I do, and maybe he picks up a little bigger fish and says, what about this one? You know. He's like, of course I do. Then Elder Holland's words. I need disciples forever.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| John Bytheway:   | 35:45 | I like how he says, Peter, if I want fish, I can get fish.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 35:48 | I can get fish.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| John Bytheway:   | 35:54 | I can even put coins in their mouth if you want. That's a temporal salvation thing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 36:01 | Think about this verily verily, I say unto you, ye are little children. Ye have not yet understood how great blessings the father has in his own hands and prepared for you. I am that person all the time. I am that person who does not get how much heavenly father wants to bless me. I've heard it said, we live far <a href="#">beneath our privileges</a> .                                          |
| Hank Smith:      | 36:26 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 36:28 | Verse 18 started it. Ye cannot bear all things now, nevertheless, be of good cheer for I will lead you along. The kingdom is yours and the blessings thereof are yours and the riches of eternity are yours and He who receiveth all things with thankfulness. I think there's a powerful principle in that.                                                                                                |
| Hank Smith:      | 36:55 | Stay humble and I can get you because I look at this, Matt, all that we've looked at today and thought, I don't know if I'm ever going to get this. This is so far. I'm so far from where the end result is. You hear that in verse 19. If you'll stay humble, be thankful for the little things I give you. I will get you there.                                                                          |
| John Bytheway:   | 37:19 | Yeah. It's easy to sit here and understand that yeah doing it Hank. In fact, what you said, Matt, over and over. Time, talents, for some people it's easy to write a check, here, do this. But when you see a guy pull over and help another guy with his                                                                                                                                                   |

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|                  |       | sprinklers, that's a heart. I'm giving up my day to go help you do this.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 37:45 | You see people. You know people. You are those people. There is a caution, and I think it's back in Mosiah chapter four, verse 27, which says this, because I can see sometimes we're sitting out there saying, well, man, I'm not doing enough. I can't do it all. How do I just give everything to the Lord like these people did? I want to, but I can't.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:      | 38:08 | Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 38:09 | Verse 27 in Mosiah four says this. See that all these things are done in wisdom and order for it is not requisite that a man should run faster than he has strength, and again, it is expedient he should be diligent and that thereby he might win the prize. Therefore, all things must be done. There's a little bit of a, what more can I do? How can I give a little more? How can I be a little more consecrated? What does that look like? Is it something in my ward? Is it my ministering assignment? Is it something in my family? Is it personal connection with heavenly Father that will help change my heart more? Is it more time in the temple? What is it that's going to let the Lord change my heart into a heart like his, that helps me want to be equal in all things and helps me want to help others be equal in heavenly things. This organization in the United Firm, I think it's a bigger, bigger deal. The Lord's trying to solve bigger issues here. Where the church is now, the church is independent. We're to that point where it may stand independent above all creatures beneath the celestial world, but how long has it taken him to get us here? |
| Hank Smith:      | 39:33 | I loved how many times you've shown us here, how often he brings up the bigger issues.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| John Bytheway:   | 39:39 | Yeah. I'm marking salvation of man and celestial.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Hank Smith:      | 39:44 | Heavenly things, celestial world that the church may stand independent, the great things the Father has prepared for you, the riches of eternity. He's reminding him, look, I'm about much bigger things. Stay with me.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| John Bytheway:   | 39:58 | Than a printing press. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:      | 40:01 | Those things are going to help get us there. Right. But don't lose sight.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 40:04 | We need the resources to be able to do it. We have to manage those resources the right way, and that's what the United Firm was supposed to do. Some of it was out of their control. Some of that was externally imposed that they lost it. We have a system in place now where we really can be above the world. We really can be out of this telestial space. You think about where we make those covenants in the temple. It's in a higher place. It's in a different place. We covenant to have our hearts different, to be different. Not just do different but be different to think and act and be like the Lord in how we view other people. That's why I wanted to start with Mosiah because that's the sign that we've obtained a remission of our sins. Why is retaining a remission of our sins connected to what we do for others? Those two great commandments, right? First, we love God with all of our heart, might, mind and strength because he is the God who knows the beginning and the end. He has provided this plan for us and as we help assist in this work to carry this plan and covenant to the world, prepare the world for the second coming. Every one of these sections here, the challenges that they had, God, he's just been creating a path to the fulfillment of this covenant in the world. It's remarkable to watch. |
| Hank Smith:      | 41:39 | It seems like I want an extreme makeover and the Lord wants, no, no, no. We are going for a very slow and steady transformation. The patience he has as he lays this out for them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John Bytheway:   | 41:55 | The parallels for us personally, sometimes we think a mighty change of heart means an instant change of heart. Maybe it's incremental to where we don't even realize, I mean, you've had young people who've come home from missions. Oh, I'm not sure I grew spiritually that much, and you're looking at them like what?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Hank Smith:      | 42:14 | You definitely did. Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| John Bytheway:   | 42:16 | We could be patient with ourselves as well. There's exceptional cases in the Book of Mormon.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Hank Smith:      | 42:22 | Right, right. But even then, yeah, there's years involved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| John Bytheway:   | 42:27 | We could be patient with our own becoming.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Hank Smith:      | 42:30 | Matt Hinton, I've known you a long time, known you almost 30 years. I knew you were good, but this has exceeded my                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

expectations. We have two more sections left, 79 and 80. What do you want to do here?

Dr. Matt Hinton: 42:43 I've tried to put this under the question today of what's the Lord trying to reveal about himself. These are two mission calls. Jared Carter is section 79. There were a few others also. Both of these two receive mission calls. They come into the church in 1831. Jared does. Stephen Burnett. He comes in at 1830. He's converted by John Murdock. They serve a number of missions. Jared Carter has actually come back from a mission when he comes to Joseph to ask about what he should do next. Jared's an interesting one because Jared, it said that he had the gift to heal, and there's a couple of stories where Jared was able to heal people.

John Bytheway: 43:29 We've had [Steve Harper](#) on here before. He wrote this book called Context. Jared Carter, this is so interesting. It says, he battled opposition and bouts of depression. He kept careful track of his obedience to the revelation and the fulfillment of the promised blessings. His records testify that as promised, the Lord sent him the Comforter, the Holy Ghost, to teach him the truth and where he should go. Since Jared was faithful to section 79, the Lord crowned him again with a bountiful harvest. Jared summarized his service after returning in October. Here is brother Jared Carter's own words. I have been gone six months and two days. The Lord has permitted me to administer the gospel to 79 souls and many others by my instrumentality have been convinced of this most glorious work. Back to Steve Harper, he rejoiced on the completion of his difficult yet successful mission. Then quote from Brother Carter again. God has blessed me according to the prophecy of Brother Joseph before I went from Ohio. That's how I'm going to remember that. He said in his words that he brought the gospel to 79 souls in section 79.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 44:45 I think the main point between these two sections is you look at Jared Carter's call. If you look at, let's just read those, there's four verses. Verily I say unto you that it is my will that my servant Jared Carter, should go into the eastern countries from place to place, from city to city in the power of the ordination wherewith he has been ordained, he was ordained a priest proclaiming glad tidings of great joy, even the everlasting gospel. I will send upon him the Comforter, which shall teach him the truth and the way whither he shall go, and inasmuch as he is faithful, I'll crown him again with sheaves. Wherefore, let your heart be glad my servant Jared Carter and fear not saith the Lord even Jesus Christ, amen. His call is very specific, needs to go to the eastern countries and proclaim the gospel. He has a

couple of really influential converts. One of Jared Carter's converts is John Tanner. That story is pretty important to the Kirtland Temple, right?

Hank Smith: 45:50 Yeah and to the church. This would be a great place for people to pick up [TC Christiansen's](#), the John Tanner story. Great place to stop and watch that. TC's a friend of ours, I know his wife enjoys the show. Maybe he should come on and direct this. It is such a well done film.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 46:14 This is where the healing ability of Jared Carter comes in. [Jared Carter](#) was said to have this gift to heal. He in the home of [John Tanner](#). John Tanner had that leg issue, that serious disease. Jared Carter pretty much commands him to stand and walk. He ends up walking the quarter mile to the lake there to get baptized. Within two years, John Tanner has a dream. In that dream he's told he is needed in Kirtland. He sells everything. As he gets to Kirtland, he finds out that the brethren had been praying to save the Kirtland temple. He donates over a period of time, I think it's estimated \$50,000, which is a ton of money to save the church. Here's a missionary that's fulfilling a call to go to a place to teach a person that he has no idea the influence that person will have in the church.

47:15 What does that reveal about the character of God? What does that reveal about the Savior of the world who's organizing a work to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man? There's just so much going on than we have any idea. I think the next chapter, section 80, is to Stephen Burnett. [Stephen Burnett](#) isn't in the church a long time. He's 1838. He's gone because of the way Joseph said it was. He sought after money and he became more interested in money, but his call's a little bit interesting. Verily, thus saith the Lord unto you, my servant Stephen Burnett, go ye, go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every creature that cometh under the sound of your voice and inasmuch you desire a companion I'll give to you my servant, Eden Smith. Now, Eden gets sick and so he ends up going with John Smith first Eden does end up joining him later.

48:11 Wherefore, go ye and preach my gospel, whither to the north, to the south, to the east or to the west it mattereth not for you cannot go amiss. Therefore, declare the things which you have heard and verily believe and know to be true. Behold, this is the will of him who hath called you, your Redeemer, even Jesus Christ, amen. Elder Bednar, if you look in the [Come, Follow Me](#) this week, Elder Bednar, he talks about that our callings are called to serve the Lord. We're assigned to a place, that place can be changed. He talks about sometimes people have a hard

time when they get a call somewhere, they get an assignment somewhere and that assignment is changed and they feel like maybe they didn't fulfill their missionary call. You have listeners probably out there listening that some have been called to serve God.

49:10

Those mission calls are really clear. You're called to be a representative of Jesus Christ, to preach the restored gospel and you're assigned to labor in the field of wherever that is. Then they get there because of physical or other difficulties, they have to come home and that assignment changes to a service mission. Their assignment as a proselyting mission or as a service missionary, you're still called to do the same work. You're still called to be the same person, to be the same representative of Jesus Christ. We have 12 right now service missionaries in our stake that are amazing missionaries who are assigned to labor as service missionaries who are called by God, by a prophet to serve and to be representatives of Him in whatever capacity they are in, and it's not any less a call from God, from his prophet. The message I take from these two sections is some people are going to be called to specific places, but most of us are just called to be representatives of Jesus Christ. Doesn't matter where we do that.

50:21

We need to do it every day of our life, whether that's I'm a ministering brother, whether it's I'm a ministering sister, whether we have specific callings or whether we're not called to anything. It doesn't mean that we aren't called to preach the gospel. Look what he says to Stephen Burnett. Therefore declare the things which ye have heard, this is verse four, and verily believe and know to be true. It doesn't matter where you do that. It doesn't matter whether you're in a little tiny town or whether you're in a big city. It doesn't matter if you're in a major calling. It doesn't matter if you're a primary teacher. We're called to be representatives of Jesus Christ, to carry forth his work and his gospel to all the world. That's the message I get from Jared Carter. There are people that you will touch and you will bring that you have no idea the influence they will have.

51:18

When I went back to my mission 13 years after I served in Panama and I went back to the dedication of the Panama Temple. As I'm sitting there at the Panama Temple, my last area in Panama was this place called Changuinola. We had all kinds of adversity in this area. There were two families that, one, we reactivated, the dad baptized the son, and then I got transferred before the mom could be baptized. Her sister lived down the road. We reactivated her and her family. That was the only success we had in this area. I won't get into the details of all the

difficulty, the challenges, but I called my mission president. I was like, president, we have a lot of opposition here, and he made this statement to me. He said, Elder Hinton, you're going to be the start of a work you won't see finished. 13 years later, when I went back, I bumped into this family at the dedication. They were one of the first families sealed in the Panama Temple.

52:19 We had baptized the son. He went on a mission. The mom got baptized. We'd reactivated the dad. The dad was serving as a district president at the time, and they'd gotten a building. These two families that we worked with were the core of the church in this little area in Panama. We loved these people and they asked us to be witnesses at their sealing, so I got to be the witness at the sealing of this family. I remember coming out of that temple and wanting to get on a bus full of missionaries right there and just saying, there's not anything better that you can do in your life than what you're doing right now to serve the Lord. Whether that's a call to go somewhere or whether that's just at your home, in your family, be the representative of Jesus Christ that he needs you to be. That's the message I get from Jared Carter and Stephen Burnett. You don't know who you're going to influence. You don't know the impact they're going to have on God's kingdom because he sees the beginning and the end. He knows what he's going to do with those people. You don't. Be grateful to be part of the journey.

Hank Smith: 53:32 Matt, this has been fantastic. I do not want it to end. When we first started, I said, I don't think these sections are a lot alike. You said, well, there is a theme here. What if we said 77 is the plan of salvation, God's message to all of his children, 78, the plan of salvation, God's message to the saints of 1832, even the Saints of 2025, 79 and 80, God's message to the individuals macro, a little more focused. Now you have a role. I don't know if that's on purpose, but I loved it.

Dr. Matt Hinton: 54:16 I love how God reveals himself, his character, and his power and his motives and his desires and his attributes to each of us to try to help us have a covenant relationship with him so that we can be prepared, so we can participate in this gathering, in this good that is growing in the world, and he needs the Jared Carters and he needs the Stephen Burnetts, and he needs the Hanks and the Johns, and he needs the Matts. He wants to reveal himself to each individual that he knows He's got us. He's always got us. He's always had us just as he has everybody else that has ever existed on this earth from the ancient of days to now, he is seeking to make himself known, to unveil, reveal himself to all of us. Any chance I get to bear testimony of Jesus Christ, who he

is, what he means to me, what he's done for me and my family, to share that, to bear witness that he is the Savior of the world, the lamb that was slain, that opens the book, that makes it possible. I want to take that opportunity. I love him and I'm grateful for him. I hope that he keeps changing my heart so that I can be more of the kind of person that can help him continue to build his kingdom, because that's what he's doing. He's building his kingdom on the earth, the church of the firstborn. He wants all of us to be part of it, and I'm grateful to be part of that.

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| Hank Smith:      | 56:07 | It'll transform us. Let's not forget that everything we've looked at today and found the power in came from a 26-year-old. 26-year-old guy in 1832. Let's not forget that part.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 56:23 | If that doesn't show you God can work miracles with anybody. He's in the vineyard with us.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| John Bytheway:   | 56:30 | You could characterize it as, I don't know, a marvelous work and a wonder.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 56:34 | Something like that.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Hank Smith:      | 56:35 | That's an accurate description. Matt, if we could have talked about this as <a href="#">EFY</a> counselors in the 19 hundreds and I said, Matt, one day, one day we're going to be on a podcast talking about the Doctrine and Covenants.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| John Bytheway:   | 56:53 | Hank with the calling that I have right now, I got up at 4:30 AM so that I could link to a Zoom at 5:00 AM and talk to some brothers in the Philippines where I served in the eighties. Hank had you told me that one day I would see the Urdaneta area there, a town in which had no missionaries, no branch now has a temple. I love verse three of section 80. Preach the gospel north, south, east, west. You cannot go amiss. That's a great line right there. Can't go amiss. You cannot get this wrong. If you just preach my gospel, you go anywhere. I love that one. |
| Hank Smith:      | 57:39 | I'll make it work. Dr. Matt Hinton, thank you for spending time with us today.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Dr. Matt Hinton: | 57:45 | Thank you both. I have loved being here. I've loved learning together. I love the Savior and I'm grateful to be part of his work.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Hank Smith:      | 57:53 | We're grateful you're a part of it, a very good day. We hate to see it end, but we need to say goodbye and thank Dr. Matt                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Hinton for being with us today. We want to thank our executive producer Shannon Sorensen, our sponsors David and Verla Sorensen. Every episode we remember our founder Steve Sorensen. I could see him putting his fist. Yeah, baby. Like after this, after an episode like this, he'd be like, Brother Hank.

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| John Bytheway: | 58:20 | A good standard of truth has been erected episode, riget? Yeah.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Hank Smith:    | 58:24 | We love him, Steve Sorensen. We hope you'll join us next week. We've got more of the Doctrine and Covenants on followHIM. Thank you for joining us on today's episode. Do you or someone you know speak Spanish, Portuguese, or French? You can now watch and listen to our podcast in those languages. Links are in the description below. Today's show notes and transcript are on our website, follow him.co. That's follow him dot CO. Of course, none of this could happen without our incredible production crew. David Perry, Lisa Spice, Will Stoughton, Krystal Roberts, Ariel Cuadra, Heather Barlow, Amelia Kabwika, Iride Gonzalez, and Annabelle Sorensen. |

## FROM MOCKERY TO MIRACLE



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| Hank Smith:    | 00:03 | Hello everyone welcome to followHIM Favorites. John and I are sharing a single story to go with each week's lesson. John, Come, Follow Me this week, section 77 of the Doctrine & Covenants through 80. You've told me you have a story. I think it's for Section 79.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| John Bytheway: | 00:19 | That's right. In fact, section 79 is very short. It's like four verses, and it called Jared Carter to go on a mission. Lucy Mack Smith has a story about Jared Carter and one of these missions, I actually heard this first from a Line Upon Line video that our friends at Living Scriptures make. I laughed out loud. It's Lucy Mack Smith. I mean, she must have been a fireball.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Hank Smith:    | 00:44 | I heard she was what, 4'11" or something and could command the house.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| John Bytheway: | 00:48 | This is in history of Joseph Smith by his mother. This is Lucy Mack Smith writing. Mr. Whitmore introduced me to the Reverend Mr. Ruggles pastor of the Presbyterian Church, to which he belonged. I can't make fun of names. My name is Bytheway, but Mr. Ruggles sounds like a teddy bear. Mr. Ruggles, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church, to which he belonged, and you, Mr. Ruggles, upon shaking hands with me, are the mother of that poor, silly, foolish boy, Joe Smith, who pretended to translate the Book of Mormon.                                                      |
| Hank Smith:    | 01:19 | Wow.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| John Bytheway: | 01:20 | I looked at him steadily in the face and replied, I am sir the mother of Joseph Smith. But why may I ask do you call him a foolish, silly boy? Because, said his reverence, that he should imagine he was going to break down all the churches with that simple Mormon book. Did you ever read that book? I inquired. No, said he, it is far too beneath me to be worthy of my notice. Then I think, sir, I said, you do not abide by that scripture, which saith search all things. Now, sir, let me tell you boldly that the Book of Mormon contains the everlasting gospel and it was |

written for the salvation of your soul by the gift and power of the Holy Ghost. Poo, said the minister, nonsense, but I have no fears of any members of my church being led away by such dogmatism for they have too much intelligence. Oooh! Now, Mr. Ruggles, said I, and I spoke earnestly for the Spirit of the God was upon me. Here comes the wrath of Lucy. Mark my words as sure as God lives, before three years, we will have more than one third of your church. And sir, whether you believe it or not, we will take the very deacon too.

Hank Smith: 02:30

Okay.

John Bytheway: 02:31

Whoa. This produced a hearty laugh from the company at the expense of the revered minister. Not to be tedious, I will say that I remained in this section of the country about three weeks after our brethren left me making my whole stay four weeks during which time I labored incessantly for the truth's sake and gained the hearts of many believers, among whom was David Dort and his wife. These were anxious to have me use my influence to have an elder sent into that region of the country, and they pledged that the men who came should not lack for anything. Just as I embarked for home, Mr. Cooper, my nephew of Detroit, said If we would dress our elders in broadcloth instead of home spun, it would add greatly to their influence.

Hank Smith: 03:12

Okay.

John Bytheway: 03:14

I promised him the next one who came to preach to them should be more genteel. I arrived home in a few days in perfect health and safety, finding my family well, and at first opportunity mentioned the state of things where I had been to Joseph. He seemed pleased that I had succeeded in preparing the way for a minister of the gospel and sent brother Jared Carter, section 79 to labor in that country. But not until we had him fitted out, as I had promised Mr. Cooper with a suit of super fine broadcloth.

Hank Smith: 03:42

Broadcloth, okay.

John Bytheway: 03:46

He went unto the midst of Mr. Ruggle's church and converted 70 of his best members, and as I said, he took the Deacon too, for, although I did not know anything about the situation of his church, he had a very intelligent deacon by the name of Samuel Bent, who is now a high counselor in Nauvoo, and he told me the last time I saw him, which was not a week since that, he had never forgotten my prophecy upon his head.

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| Hank Smith:    | 04:11 | Wow. That's awesome.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| John Bytheway: | 04:13 | Go Jared Carter and go Lucy Mack Smith.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hank Smith:    | 04:17 | So Jared Carter. Yeah. He shows up right there in section 79 that my will, my servant Jared Carter should go again into the Eastern countries. He said straight outta the Colesville branch.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| John Bytheway: | 04:28 | Yeah. The Lord didn't say anything about his clothes, but the members wanted him in broadcloth.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Hank Smith:    | 04:34 | I need a little more broadcloth. Very important. Can't have this non-broadcloth. That's fantastic. Hey, we hope you'll join us on our full podcast. It's called followHIM. You can get it wherever you get your podcast. We're with Dr. Matt Hinton this week. Matt and I have been friends since the 19 hundreds. He does an incredible job with these sections. You're gonna love it, and then come back next week, we'll do another followHIM Favorites. |