

Doctrine and Covenants 65

Prepare for the Second Coming of Christ



*And this gospel of the kingdom shall
be preached in all the world for a
witness unto all nations; and then
shall the end come
Matthew 24:14*



**October 1831 in
Hiram, Ohio**

Background



**13 Revelations were
received by Joseph Smith
at the home of the
Johnson's where he and
his family resided**

**During this time Joseph Smith
and Sidney Rigdon, as scribe,
were in the process of
translating the scriptures**

**The Prophet Joseph Smith indicated that this section
is a prayer. He said, "In the fore part of October, I
received the following prayer [D&C 65] through
revelation" HC**



Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

On September 12, 1831, Joseph Smith and his family moved 30 miles southeast of Kirtland, Ohio, to the John and Alice Johnson home in Hiram, Ohio. A Church service was held at the Johnson home on Sunday, October 30, 1831. On that same day, the Prophet received the revelation that is recorded in Doctrine and Covenants 65. Manual

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Setting Up the Kingdom of God

“committed unto man” -- enables the gospel to fill the whole earth

“keys of the kingdom” --the priesthood authority to preside in the Church.

With these keys, the President of the Church leads our efforts to preach the gospel. He delegates some of the keys to general and local priesthood leaders.

“Keys of the kingdom,” or “keys of the priesthood,” are “the rights of presidency, or the power given to man by God to direct, control, and govern God’s priesthood on earth”

Guide to the scriptures



Our Role in the Kingdom



“The ancient prophets declared that in the last days the God of heaven should set up a kingdom which should never be destroyed, nor left to other people; and the very time that was calculated on, this people were struggling to bring it out. ...

“I calculate to be one of the instruments of setting up the kingdom of Daniel by the word of the Lord, and I intend to lay a foundation that will revolutionize the whole world. ...

It will not be by sword or gun that this kingdom will roll on: the power of truth is such that all nations will be under the necessity of obeying the Gospel.”

HC



Stone Cut Out of the Mountain Without Hands

“The Lord’s Church [increasing] in magnitude until it fills the whole earth, ‘never [to] be destroyed ... [but to] stand for ever’



The image represented different kingdoms of the earth. The head of gold represented Nebuchadnezzar’s kingdom, while the parts of the statue made of silver, brass, iron, and clay represented inferior kingdoms that were to follow.

As for the stone that destroyed the image, Daniel declared that in the days of the kingdoms of iron and clay “shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever”.

**This stone is the
restored gospel.**

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

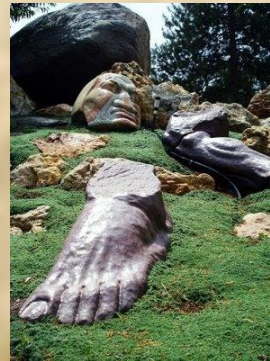


The Lord revealed the dream and its meaning to Daniel.

In the dream, a great statue, which represented various political kingdoms, was destroyed by a stone cut without hands from a mountain.

The stone started small but grew until it filled the whole earth.

Interpretation of the dream, which was to roll forth and smite the image and break it in pieces and to roll on until it should fill the whole earth.



The Kingdom

Kingdom of God set up In the Days of Adam

Righteous men—God reveals His word and gives power and authority to administer in His name



Righteous
Man



Priest



Priesthood of
God



Kingdom of
God



Righteous
Man



Prophet

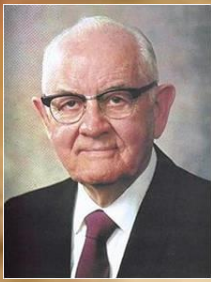


Oracles of
God



Kingdom of
God





“We are citizens in the greatest kingdom on earth—a kingdom not directed by the wisdom of men but led by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Its presence is real. Its destiny is certain. This is the kingdom of which the prophet Daniel spoke—a stone, as it were, that should be cut out of the mountain without hands and roll forth and fill the earth

“No mortal man created this kingdom”

President Spencer W. Kimball



Why am I Here?



“Have you ever thought about why you were sent to earth at this specific time?”

You were not born during the time of Adam and Eve or while pharaohs ruled Egypt or during the Ming dynasty.



You have come to earth at this time, 20 centuries after the first coming of Christ.

The priesthood of God has been restored to the earth, and the Lord has set His hand to prepare the world for His glorious return.



Make Ready the Bridegroom

The Church is His symbolic bride”

...the Savior invites us to be active participants in preparing the world for His coming.

The Saints are not to sit back and wait for a rapture to remove them from the ills of the world but to actively work to build the kingdom and end the ills of the world.

Casey Paul Griffiths



**...help prepare the world
for the Second Coming of
the Savior”**



Preparing Individually for the 2nd Coming

**Living the gospel of
Jesus Christ**



**Faith
Repentance
Covenants**

Enduring to the End

**Learning and teaching
the gospel at home and
at church**

**Becoming self-reliant in
providing for ourselves
and families temporally
and spiritually**

**Caring for those in
need**

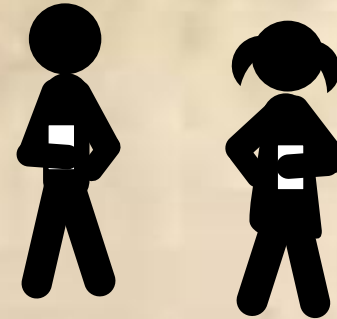
**Serving and
ministering to
individuals, families,
and communities**

**Sharing resources for
those in need**

**Helping others
become self-reliant**



**Inviting all to receive
the gospel**



**Participating in
Missionary work**

**Serving as
missionaries**

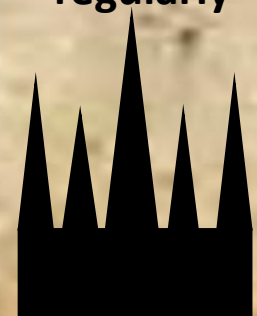
**Helping new and
returning Church
member progress
along the covenant
path**

**Uniting families for
eternity**

**Making covenants to
receive temple
ordination**

**Discover deceased
ancestors and
performing ordinances
in the temple**

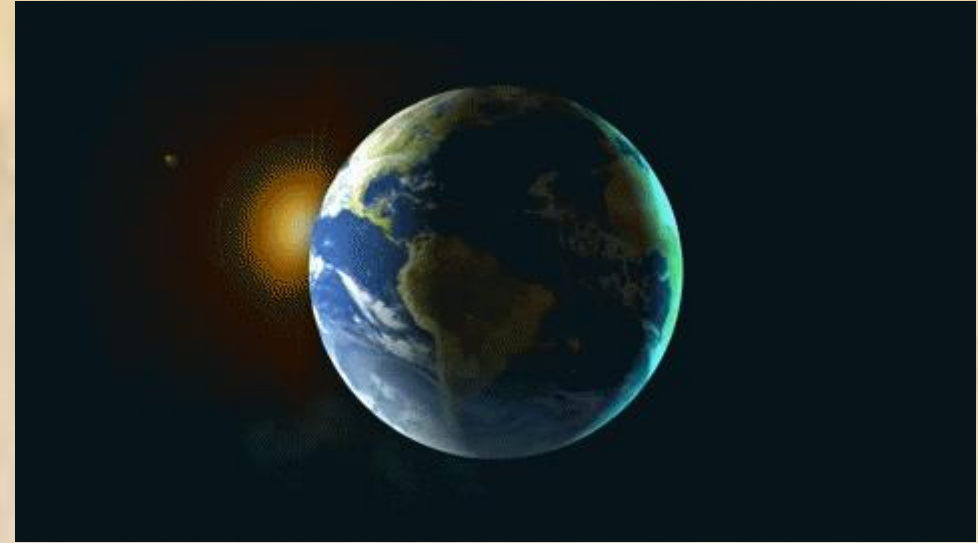
**Going to the temple
regularly**



Kingdom of God VS Kingdom of Heaven

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the kingdom of God on the earth, but it is at present limited to an ecclesiastical kingdom.

During the Millennium, the kingdom of God will be both political and ecclesiastical.



The purpose of the Church is to prepare its members to live forever in the celestial kingdom or kingdom of heaven.



What Do We Pray For?



Family



Home



Food and
Clothing



Health and
Strength



Finding our
ancestors

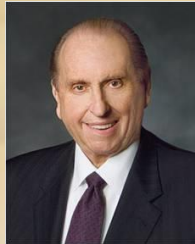
Missionary Effort



What Should We Pray For?

“I would ask that your faith and prayers continue to be offered in behalf of those areas where our influence is limited and where we are not allowed to share the gospel freely at this time. Miracles can occur as we do so.”

President Thomas S. Monson



There are many countries where missionaries are not allowed, including those where Christianity is illegal or suppressed, countries with restrictions on evangelism, and countries where foreign missionaries are limited:

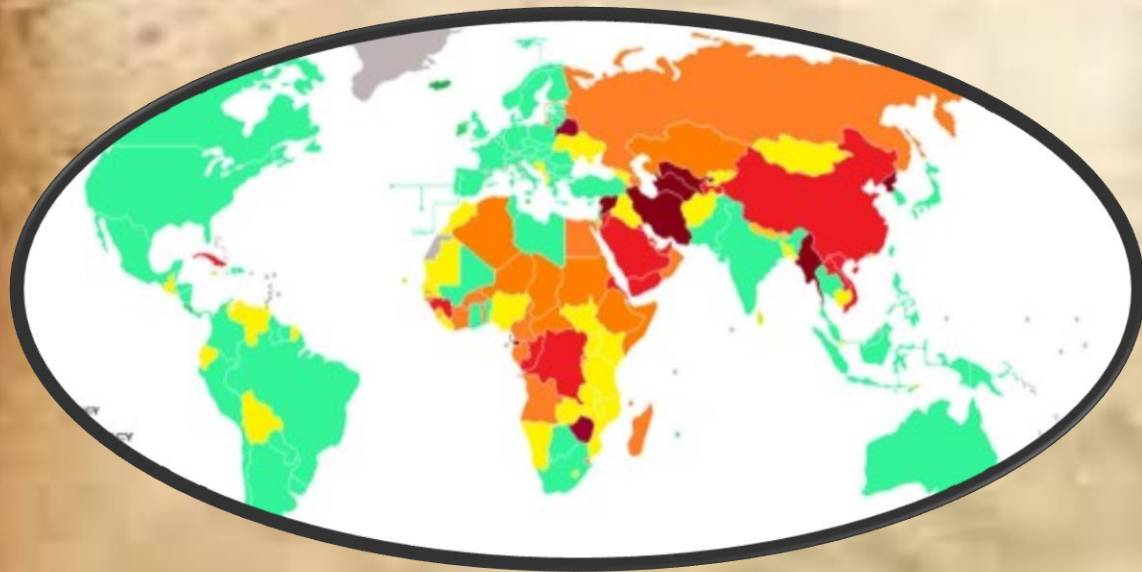
Countries where Christianity is illegal or suppressed: **Afghanistan, North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Yemen, Eritrea, Nigeria, and Pakistan**

Countries with restrictions on evangelism: **Most of the world's 49 majority-Muslim countries**

Countries where foreign missionaries are limited: **India, Bhutan, Laos, and Burma**

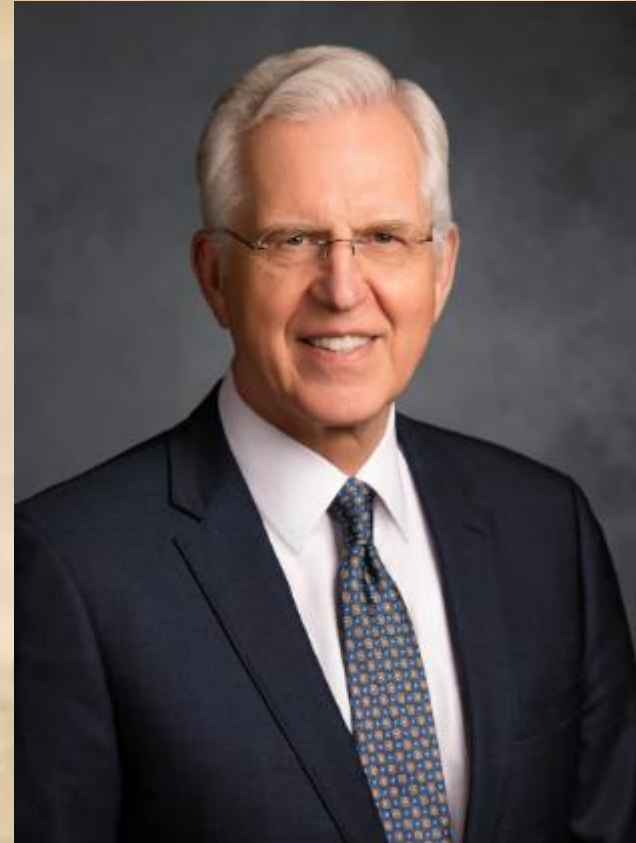
Countries where online proselytizing is restricted: **The People's Republic of China**

Countries where Mormons are not allowed to missionize: **Israel, Belarus**



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is uniquely empowered and commissioned to accomplish the necessary preparations for the Lord's Second Coming; indeed, it was restored for that purpose. ...

The Church of Jesus Christ is commissioned to prepare—and is preparing—the world for that day. D. Todd Christofferson



Sources:

The Church to Fill the Earth (1:36)
“The Gospel Shall Roll Forth” (2:47).



(History of the Church, 1:218)

(History of the Church, 6:364–65.)

Prophet Joseph Smith (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 271–272).

Casey Paul Griffiths <https://doctrineandcovenantscentral.org/sections/commentary-on-dc-65/?Verses-1-2>

President Spencer W. Kimball (“Pillars of Truth,” *Ensign*, Jan. 1994, 4).

Elder Neil L. Andersen (“Preparing the World for the Second Coming,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2011, 49).

President Thomas S. Monson (“Welcome to Conference,”

Ensign or *Liahona*, Nov. 2009, 6).

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Countries where missionaries cannot preach:

https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bbfe05642f884d57&sxsrf=ADLYWIJkc5ET6z4c7odSprRXNOJsztv_Lg:1731170250517&q=Countries+where+missionaries+are+not+allowed&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwipqs_e18-JAxXrH0QIHSUOIpoQ1QJ6BAg9EAE&biw=1920&bih=919&dpr=1

D. Todd Christofferson, “Preparing for the Lord’s Return,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, May 2019, 82, 84

Kingdom of God:

“Some say that the kingdom of God was not set up upon the earth until the day of Pentecost, and that John did not preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, but I say to you in the name of the Lord that the kingdom of God was set up upon the earth in the days of Adam to the present time.

Whenever there has been a righteous man on the earth, unto whom God revealed His word and gave power and authority to administer in His name, and where there is a priest of God ... to administer in the ordinances of the gospel, and officiate in the priesthood of God, there is the kingdom of God. ... Where there is a prophet, a priest, or a righteous man unto whom God gives His oracles, there is the kingdom of God; and where the oracles of God are not, there the kingdom of God is not.’ Prophet Joseph Smith (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, pp. 271–272).

Where LDS Cannot Preach---just a blog answer

Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, most Muslim theocratic countries, most communist countries(so North Korea, most of China, Cuba, etc)

In Israel, we can't openly proselytize(so no missionaries), but we are allowed to worship and live there. And, of course, as long as someone is a closeted Mormon they can live in those Islamic Theocratic countries and the Communist countries, however they can't be open about it, and no worship is allowed, nor are missionaries allowed.

Basically, as long as the country is at least semi-democratic(with the exception of Israel), Missionaries are allowed there. Undemocratic countries we are typically not allowed in.

So, if you look at this map of the world, which shows the level of democracy each nation has, we are allowed in all Full and flawed democracies(again, Israel is the exception), and I'd say half of the Semi-dictatorships(We are allowed in Russia, for example). None of the Full dictatorships or oppressive regimes we are allowed in, except China allows us in a very few places, such as in Hong Kong. <http://weblog.savetibet.org/wp-content/u...>

Source:

I'm Mormon