

November 8–14

Doctrine and Covenants 129–132

“When We Obtain Any Blessing From God, It Is By
Obedience”



Historical Background

Heading of the Section 132, 1981 edition: Although the revelation was recorded in 1843, it is evident from the historical records that the doctrines and principles involved in this revelation had been known by the Prophet since 1831.

Three questions about marriage:

Question 1 – D&C 132:1, “wherein I, the Lord, justified... my servants, as touching the principle and doctrine of their having many wives and concubines”

Question 2 – D&C 132:16 “when they are out of the world they neither marry nor are given in marriage” (Matt 22:30)

Question 3 – D&C 132:41, “And as ye have asked concerning adultery”

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 132:1-4

What does the Lord ask Joseph to do before the Lord answers his question about plural marriage?

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 131:1-3

What does the Lord ask Joseph to do before the Lord answers his question about plural marriage?

Ezra Taft Benson

"When our children obey the Lord and go to the temple to receive their blessings and enter into the marriage covenant, they enter into the same order of the priesthood that God instituted in the very beginning with father Adam.....

"This order of priesthood can only be entered into when we comply with all the commandments of God and seek the blessings of the fathers as did Abraham by going to our Father's house. They are received in no other place on this earth!" ("What I Hope You Will Teach Your Children about the Temple", Ensign, Aug. 1985)

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 132:4-6

What does the Lord tell us we must do in order to be exalted?

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 132:13-14

What will become of everything that is ordained by man?

Spencer W. Kimball

"How final! How frightening! Since we know well that mortal death does not terminate our existence, since we know that we live on and on, how devastating to realize that marriage and family life, so sweet and happy in so many homes, will end with death because we fail to follow God's instructions or because we reject his word when we understand it." (CR, Oct. 1964)

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 132:15,19

What must a couple do to have their marriage in effect in the next world?

What blessings are received by those who are worthy of eternal marriage?

Melvin J. Ballard

"While we receive eternal blessings at the hands of the priesthood which has the right to seal on earth and it shall be sealed in the heavens, this revelation clearly states that it must be sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise also.... We may deceive men but we cannot deceive the Holy Ghost, and our blessings will not be eternal unless they are also sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise. The Holy Ghost is one who reads the thoughts and hearts of men, and gives his sealing approval to the blessings pronounced upon their heads. Then it is binding, efficacious, and of full force." ("Three Degrees of Glory")

Bruce R. McConkie

“Every act that we do, if it is to have binding and sealing virtue in eternity, must be justified by the Spirit. In other words, it must be ratified by the Holy Ghost; or in other words, it must be sealed by the Holy Spirit of Promise. (CR, April 1956)

Russell M. Nelson

"Rewards result from the righteous use of the spiritual power belonging to the priesthood! And they are so great that they are almost beyond human comprehension. To those couples who bear and share that priesthood worthily and remain faithful to the law of the everlasting covenant of eternal marriage, enduring the congested years and trials... the Lord makes this promise: 'Ye shall come forth in the first resurrection;... and shall inherit thrones, kingdoms, principalities, and powers, dominions,... [and there] shall be a fulness and a continuation of the seeds forever and ever.'" (CR, Oct, 1984)

New and Everlasting Covenant

D&C 132:21-25

Why do only a few find the strait gate and narrow way?

Dieter F. Uchtdorf

"The promised blessings of God to the faithful are glorious and inspiring. Among them are 'thrones, kingdoms, principalities, and powers, dominions, all heights and depths.' And it takes more than a spiritual birth certificate or a "Child of God Membership Card" to qualify for these incomprehensible blessings.

"But how do we attain them? The Savior has answered this question in our time: 'Except ye abide my law ye cannot attain to this glory. For strait is the gate, and narrow the way that leadeth unto the exaltation.... Receive ye, therefore, my law.'"

"For this reason, we speak of walking the path of discipleship. We speak of obedience to God's commandments. We speak of living the gospel joyfully, with all our heart, might, mind, and soul." (CR, Oct. 2014)

Plural Marriage

D&C 132:28-32

What was Abraham promised concerning his posterity?

Plural Marriage

D&C 132:34-37

Why was Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob all justified in practicing polygamy?

Jacob 2:27,30

27 Wherefore, my brethren, hear me, and hearken to the word of the Lord: For there shall not any man among you have save it be one wife; and concubines he shall have none;

30 For if I will, saith the Lord of Hosts, raise up seed unto me, I will command my people; otherwise they shall hearken unto these things

Plural Marriage

D&C 132:40,45-47

Plural Marriage

D&C 132:52-53,55

What is promised to Joseph Smith as a result of practicing polygamy?

Plural Marriage

D&C 132:66

What additional revelations will Joseph receive concerning the law?

Wilford Woodruff

"Then President Young spoke 58 Minutes. He said a man may embrace the Law of Celestial Marriage in his heart and not take the second wife and be justified before the Lord." (Wilford Woodruff's Journal, 7:31)

Sealed Unto Eternal Life

D&C 132:49-50

What does it mean to have the Lord “seal upon you your exaltation”?

Sealed Unto Eternal Life

D&C 131:5

2 Peter 1:4,10

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

Joseph Smith

“Now for the secret and grand key. Though they might hear the voice of God and know that Jesus was the Son of God, this would be no evidence that their election and calling was made sure, that they had part with Christ, and were joint heirs with Him. They then would want *that more sure word of prophecy*, that they were sealed in the heavens and had the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God. Then, having this promise sealed unto them, it was an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast....

“Then I would exhort you to go on and continue to call upon God until you make *your calling and election sure* for yourselves, by obtaining this *more sure word of prophecy*, and wait patiently for the promise until you obtain it. (HC, 5:388-389)

Joseph Smith

“After a person has faith in Christ, repents of his sins, and is baptized for the remission of his sins and receives the Holy Ghost... then let him continue to humble himself before God, hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and living by every word of God, and the Lord will soon say unto him, Son, thou shall be exalted. When the Lord has thoroughly proved him, and finds that the man is determined to serve him at all hazards, then the man will find *his calling and his election made sure*. (HC, 3:380)

Sealed Unto Eternal Life

D&C 130:3

Spencer W. Kimball

"The Christ said: 'He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself unto him' (John 14:21)

"He further said: 'If a man love me, he will keep my words... and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him' (John 14:23)

"And the Prophet Joseph Smith explained: 'And this means that the coming of the Father and the Son to a person is a reality—a personal appearance—and not merely dwelling in his heart'

"This personal witness, then, is the ultimate treasure." (CR, Oct. 1968)

Intelligence

D&C 130:18-19

What is intelligence?

D&C 93:36-39

36 The glory of God is intelligence, or, in other words, light and truth.

37 Light and truth forsake that evil one.

38 Every spirit of man was innocent in the beginning; and God having redeemed man from the fall, men became again, in their infant state, innocent before God.

39 And that wicked one cometh and taketh away light and truth, through disobedience, from the children of men, and because of the tradition of their fathers.

D&C 50:24-25

24 That which is of God is light; and he that receiveth light, and continueth in God, receiveth more light; and that light groweth brighter and brighter until the perfect day.

25 And again, verily I say unto you, and I say it that you may know the truth, that you may chase darkness from among you;

Intelligence

D&C 130:20-21

What must we do to receive any blessing?

But what if we don't know what the laws are?

What must we do to know the laws?

Russell M. Nelson

"His hope for us is eternal life. We qualify for it by obedience to covenants and ordinances of the temple—for ourselves, our families, and our ancestors. We cannot be made perfect without them. We cannot wish our way into the presence of God. We are to obey the laws upon which those blessings are predicated." (CR, April 2005)

N. Eldon Tanner

"Now regarding the laws of God. They are as clear and as binding and as irrevocable as those of nature, and our success or failure, our happiness or unhappiness, depend on our knowledge and application of these laws in our lives....

"We believe that the gospel contains the laws of life, pertaining to our human relations, to moral and spiritual living—laws that are just as valid in their field of operation as are the laws of nature in the world of natural phenomena." (CR, Oct. 1975)

Intelligence

D&C 131:6

John A. Widstoe

“There are of course many kinds of knowledge; some of lesser, some of higher value. When Joseph Smith said that a man cannot be saved in ignorance, he meant naturally ignorance of the laws which all together lead to salvation. Such knowledge is of the highest value. It should be sought after first. Then other kinds of knowledge may be added to support and amplify the more direct knowledge of spiritual law.” (Evidences and Reconciliations, pg. 224)

N. Eldon Tanner

“The word of the Lord is so clear to us, and his laws so plainly designed for our happiness, that it is difficult to understand why some people feel their own judgment is superior, and disregard God's laws and bring upon themselves misery and unhappiness by so doing.” (CR, Oct. 1975)

The Godhead

D&C 130:22-23

What do we learn about the physical characteristics of the Godhead?

Can the Holy Ghost influence you even if you don't have the gift?

Prophecy of the Civil War

D&C 130:12-13

Next Week:

November 15–21

Doctrine and Covenants 133–134

“Prepare Ye For the Coming of the
Bridegroom”

