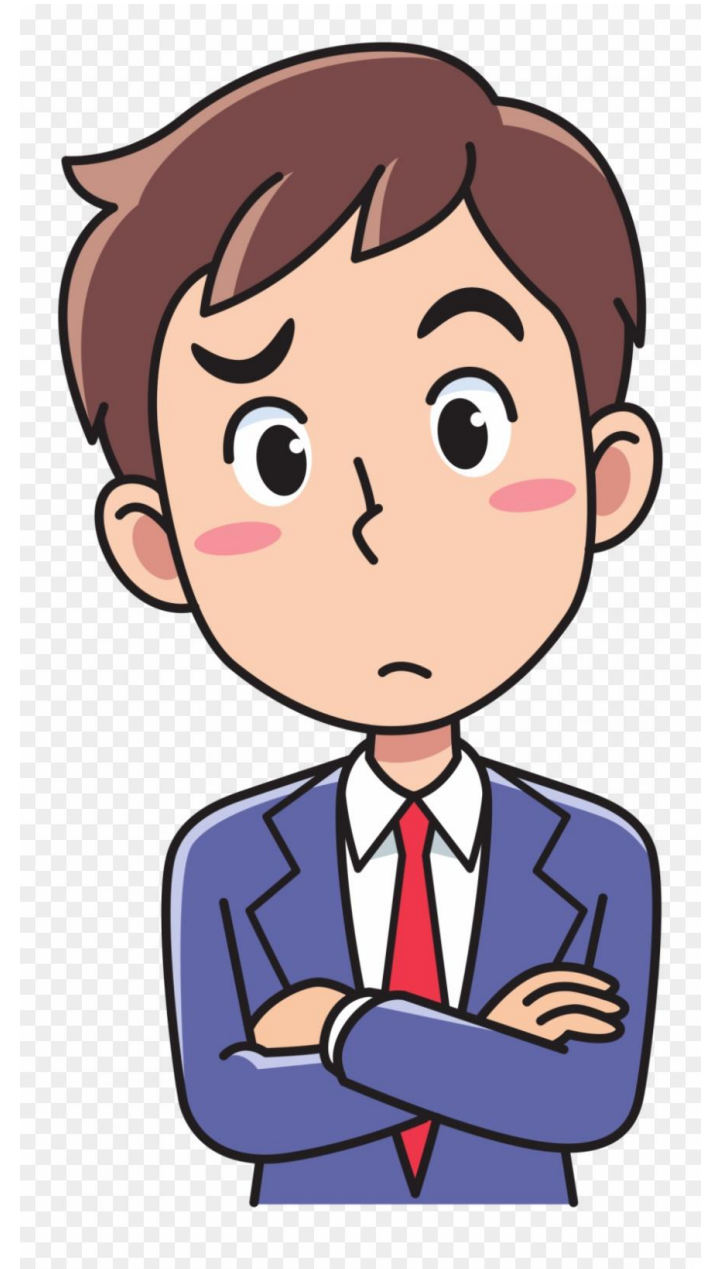


1918 Protocol

**A way to proceed today
based on scripture and
and Church History**

*What is
it??*



*It's a
Baby
Step*



Baby Step???



*Yes... but
profound!*

*It could
bring*
HEALING



To US...the

Body of Christ



1918 Protocol

Point #1

Promote and encourage

Worship

Fellowship

Service

1918 Protocol

Point #2

Recognize Baptisms

confirmations

branch membership

1918 Protocol

Point #3

Recognize Authority

AARONIC

MELCHIZEDEK- (elder)

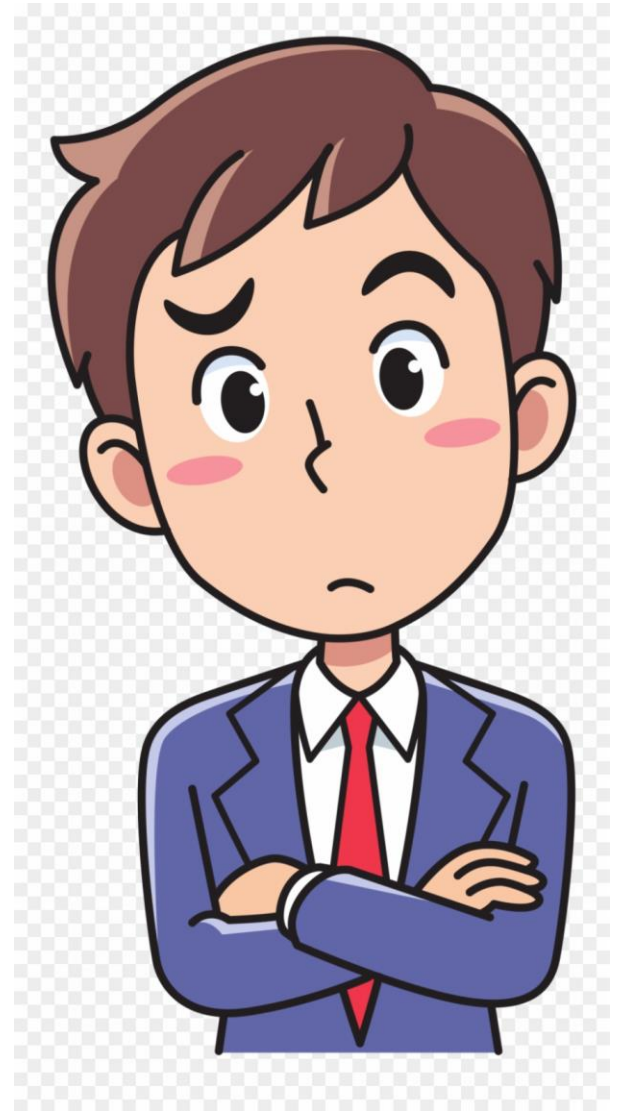
Each branch > YOU

consider and decide

for YOURSELF

It's very specific and primarily pertains only to persons who desire to transfer membership into THIS Restoration Branch...

FROM THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:



Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

RLDS fundamental (Bridge Branch)

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

RLDS fundamental members (including Bridge Branch)

Joint Conference of Restoration Branches

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

RLDS fundamental members (including Bridge Branch)

Joint Conference of Restoration Branches

Everlasting Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints



THIS IS MY CHURCH





Doctrine and Covenants

4---Feb. 1829

11---May 1829

12---June 1829



Not willing to give up rank and position

REJECTED

Willing to give up rank and position

CALLED



It is based on **HISTORICAL EVENTS**



Reorganized church

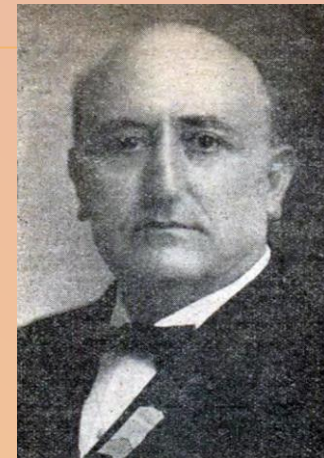


Church of Christ

It is based on **HISTORICAL EVENTS**
culminating in the “Agreement of
Working Harmony” in 1918 between
the **RLDS** and **Church of Christ**



Church History Vol. 7 pg.279-285



Reorganized church

Church of Christ ²⁴



Followed >>> Scripture

Increased >>> Membership

Strengthened >>> Both Groups

Protected >>> Restoration Doctrine

Continued >>> Separate organizations

Embraced >>> “Agreement” by both churches

Acknowledged >>> Divine priesthood authority

Recognized >>> Common Brotherhood in Christ

“Agreement of Working Harmony”

“ As the Church of Christ we have much for which to thank our God. Never in the history of his dealings with mankind was the prospect more flattering. The church work moves forward with a quickened pace; the men in the fields report more calls for preaching than they can fill; many are embracing the truth...

The debt of the church is waning and looks like it might go into total eclipse at any moment; the tithes and offerings continue to flow into the treasury and God's richest blessings are bestowed upon the church everywhere, and the coming of the Lord draws nigh."



Granville Hedrick

September 2, 1814 – August 22, 1881



- Born 1814
- Baptized 1843
- After 1844, followed various groups
- 1847 moved to Blanchardsville, WI
- 1857 came to RLDS conference
- 1863 Ordained Prophet (Hedrickite)
- Died 1867

Interactions between Granville Hedrick and RLDS Pioneers go back at least to 1847

Granville Hedrick moved to the lead
mines in Blanchardsville, (better known in
RLDS history as *Zarahemla*), Wisconsin

The History of Zarahemla (Blanchardsville): Headquarters of the Reorganization, 1852-1860
The John Whitmer Historical Society Journal Vol. 41, No.2 pp.88-102

Interactions between Granville Hedrick and RLDS Pioneers go back at least to 1847

There he worked with Zenos Gurley, Henry Deam, John Cunningham, Cyrus Newkirk, the Wildermuth family to name a few.
At the time, they were Strangites.

The History of Zarahemla (Blanchardsville): Headquarters of the Reorganization, 1852-1860
The John Whitmer Historical Society Journal Vol. 41, No.2 pp.88-102

At various times since 1856 efforts had been made by the eldership of the Church of Christ and of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to form a working basis of harmony between them.

Church History Vol. 7 pp.279-280

In 1897 overtures were again made by the elders of the Church of Christ. A joint committee composed of Elders from the Church of Christ and the RLDS church was formed. Joseph Smith III and Alexander H. Smith were among the elders representing the RLDS church.

Church History Vol. 7 pp.279-280

Again in 1900 another joint committee was formed including Joseph Luff, Heman Smith, Alexander H. Smith from the RLDS. They reaffirmed the series of agreements stated by the previous joint committee with clarifications made.

Church History Vol. 7 pp.279-280

In 1917 , the Church of Christ expressed a desire for further conferring . This led to the adoption of the “Agreements of Working Harmony” in 1918.

Church History Vol. 7 pp.279-280

AGREEMENT OF WORKING HARMONY

In 1918, after many years of meetings and discussion the “Agreement of Working Harmony” between the RLDS and Church of Christ (Temple Lot) was adopted. Twenty-four points of agreement were agreed on. Point #7 (listed below) addressed priesthood authority:

“Agreed, that we believe that there are individuals in the different factions who hold the priesthood.”

The RLDS church formally adopted the “Agreement of Working Harmony.”

“At a joint meeting of the First Presidency, Twelve, Seventy, High Priests, and Bishops held in the Church of Christ building on April 8, 1918, the report was considered paragraph by paragraph. Each of the twenty-four articles was approved and the document in total, was then approved unanimously.”

***Both churches formally adopted the
“Agreement of Working Harmony.”***

**The Church of Christ in their conference
passed the “Agreement of Working Harmony”
by unanimous vote**

In the General Conference “the report was adopted with but one dissenting vote”

General Conference Minutes 1918, pg. 2611

“The *spirit* of ‘working harmony’ is the important thing. The *letter* of the articles is of secondary importance and is chiefly useful in clarifying the situation.”

Church History vol. 7 p.284

The day-to-day effect of the implementation of the “Working Harmony” agreement is described by an eyewitness.

“...the Elders of the Josephites (RLDS) preach for us. And our Elders preach in the Stone Church for the Josephites... We also take the sacrament together at either church,

**and also use the same church books,
Inspired translation of the Bible by
Joseph Smith the Martyr. Also the
same songbooks.**

Last Sunday the president of our branch and other Elders from the Temple Lot was over to your church to hear President Fred. M. Smith, the son of Joseph, the son of Joseph, or the Grandson of Joseph the Martyr.

So you see we are indeed all brethren and co-workers with God for the building up of Zion and His cause upon the earth, and some day we will all come together and build the Temple.”

E. Stafford, Independence, Missouri, to (RLDS Apostle) Clyde Ellis, Tahiti, March 9, 1922. Clyde F. Ellis Papers, P38, f12, item, 8,9,10,11,12,13, Community of Christ Library-Archives



Session #2

1918

Protocol

**A way to proceed today
based on scripture and
and Church History**

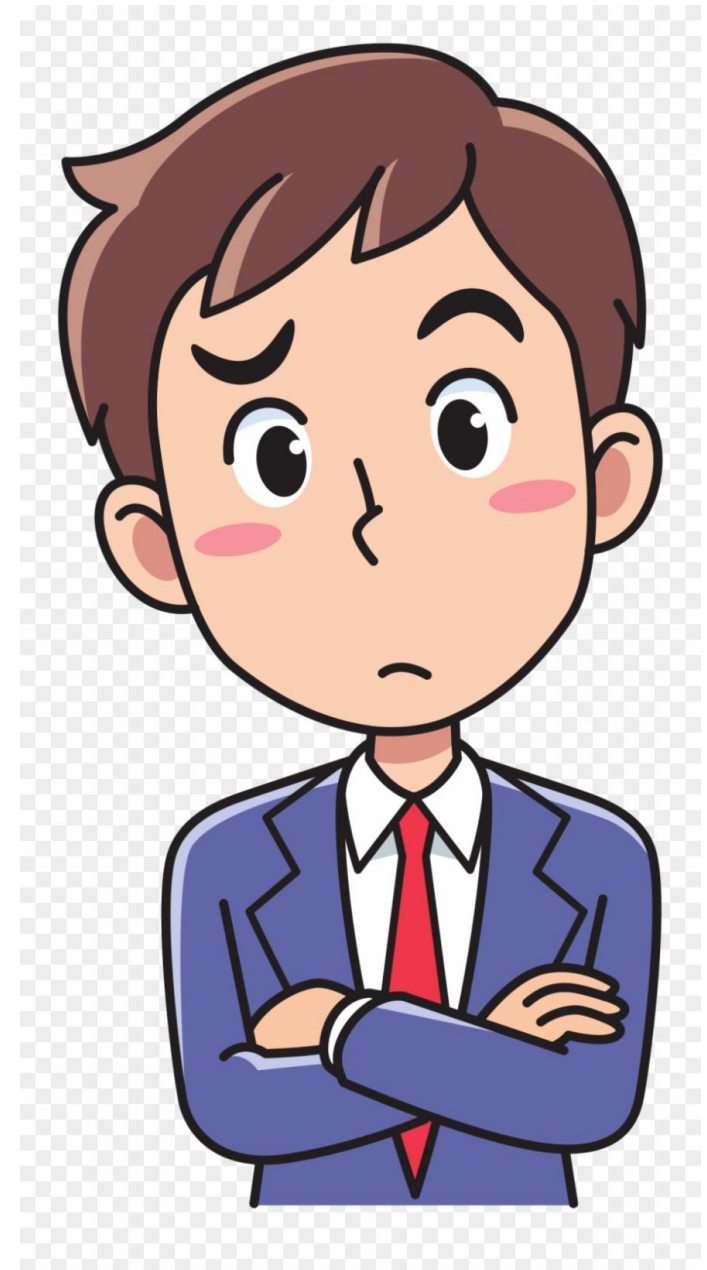
1918 Protocol

#1 Promote and encourage Worship Fellowship Service

#2 Recognize Baptisms Confirmations Branch membership

#3 Recognize Authority AARONIC MELCHIZEDEK- (elder)

*It's a
Baby
Step*



Baby Step???



*Yes... but
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HEALING



To US...the

Body of Christ



It is based on **HISTORICAL EVENTS**



Reorganized church

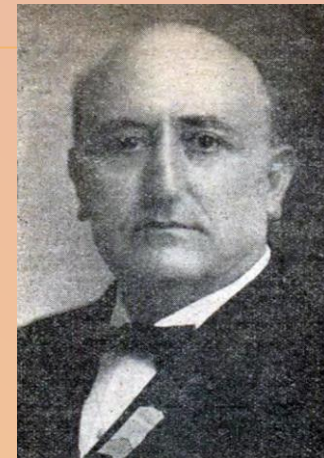


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Working Harmony” in 1918 between
the **RLDS** and **Church of Christ**



Church History Vol. 7 pg.279-285



Reorganized church

Church of Christ ⁵⁶



"I said I would take questions - I didn't say I would answer them."

A fluffy, light-colored kitten is lying on its back on a wooden floor. The kitten's front paws are held up near its eyes, and its hind legs are also visible. The kitten has a pleading or desperate expression on its face.

WAIT!

DON'T LEAAAWVEEE







One Job

JESUS

commanded

The Great Commission

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, unto the end of the world. Amen.” *Matthew 28:18-19 IV*

The Everlasting Covenant

“And this is mine **everlasting covenant**, that when thy posterity shall embrace the truth, and look upward, then shall **ZION** look downward, and all the heavens shall shake with gladness, and the earth shall tremble with joy;

And the general assembly of the church of the firstborn shall come down out of heaven, and possess the earth, and shall have place until the end come. And this is mine **everlasting covenant**, which I made with thy father Enoch. *Genesis 9:22-23*

ONE JOB...

The Great Commission

The Everlasting Covenant

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, unto the end of the world. Amen. *Matthew 28:18-19*



Everlasting Covenant

=

“Fullness of the Gospel”?

“Verily I say unto you, Blessed are you for receiving mine **everlasting covenant**, even the **fullness of my gospel**, sent forth unto the children of men, that they might have life, and be made partakers of the glories, which are to be revealed in the last days, as it was written by the prophets and apostles in days of old.”

Doctrine and Covenants 66:1b

Christ's church is the vehicle used to accomplish the task

→ *The Great Commission*

→ *The Everlasting Covenant*

The Everlasting Covenant =

→ Fullness of the Gospel

RESTORED

→ Everlasting Covenant

→ Priesthood Authority

→ Ordinance



RESTORATION

[DC 83:3c](#) Therefore, in the **ordinances** thereof the power of godliness is manifest; and without the ordinances thereof, and the **authority of the priesthood**, the power of godliness is not manifest unto men in the flesh; for without this, no man can see the face of God, even the Father, and live.

RESTORED

→ Everlasting Covenant

→ Priesthood Authority

→ Ordinance

FIRST...

...BEFORE

The Church

→ Vehicle ←

ORGANIZED

Divine counsel given to Eric Odida thru Tom Mitchell

Shared by Mark Griffin at prayer service Oak Grove Dec. 8, 2021. He is quoting Tom Mitchell:

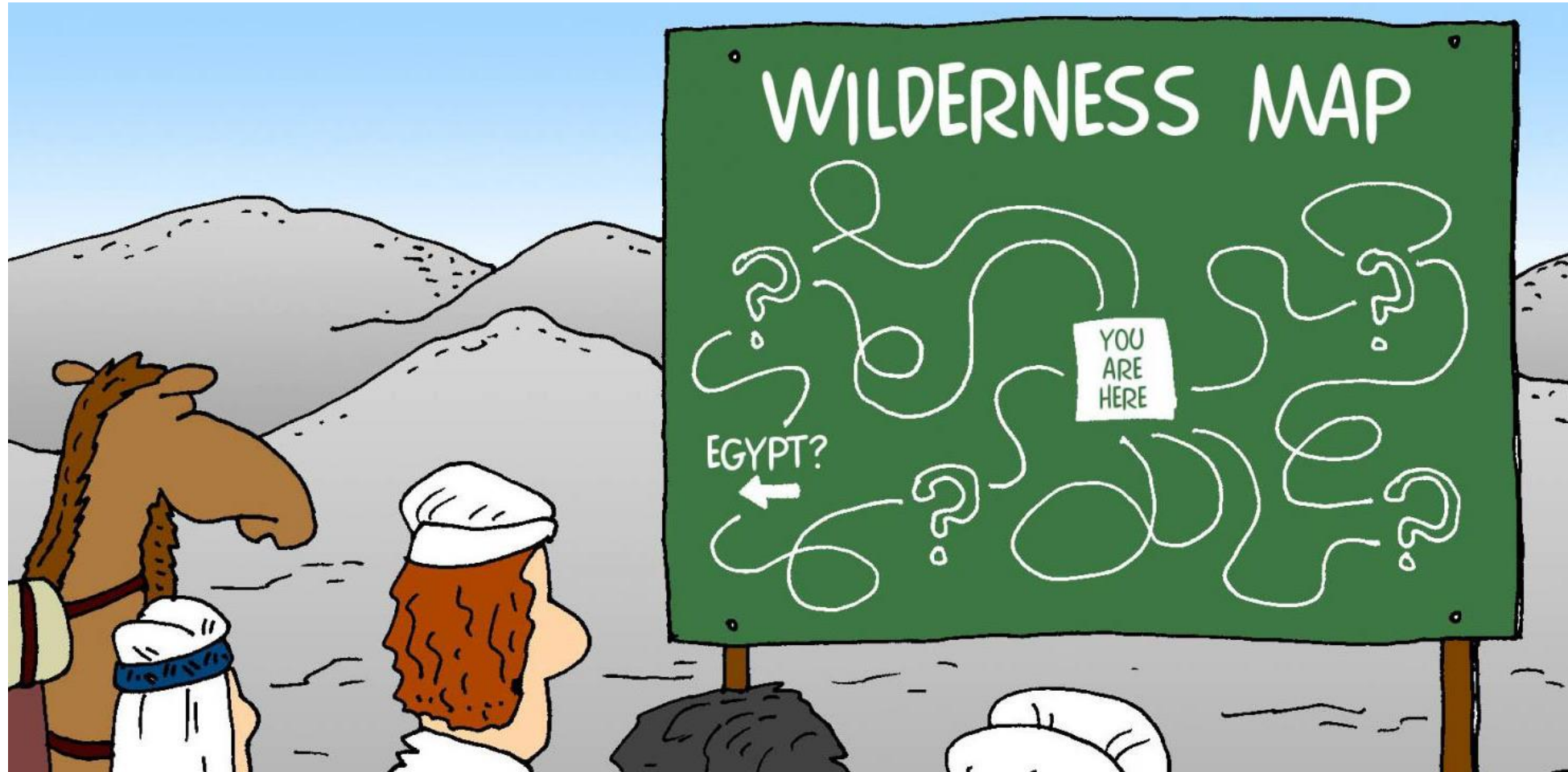
“Toward evening after a long time of reading and sending messages Eric (Odida) asked me a question out of the blue ‘What is the Great and Marvelous Work?’

The answer came immediately from inside without any thought...not from me but in that dialogue as the spirit sometimes moves...

“I said to the effect: It’s not the Book of Mormon, or the restoration of the church, or priesthood authority as crucial as they all are, they’re the tools of a Father who longs for His children to come home, all of His covenant children—even the ones we don’t like.

“We have long worshipped the church and the fullness of the gospel with all of its beauty, as wonderful and needed as they are, but they are but methods of gathering His sons and daughters home. Even to my small mind this revelation came with profound simplicity and truth.”

So...Where are we today?



Talk2Perd.com

sigh!



Destination..

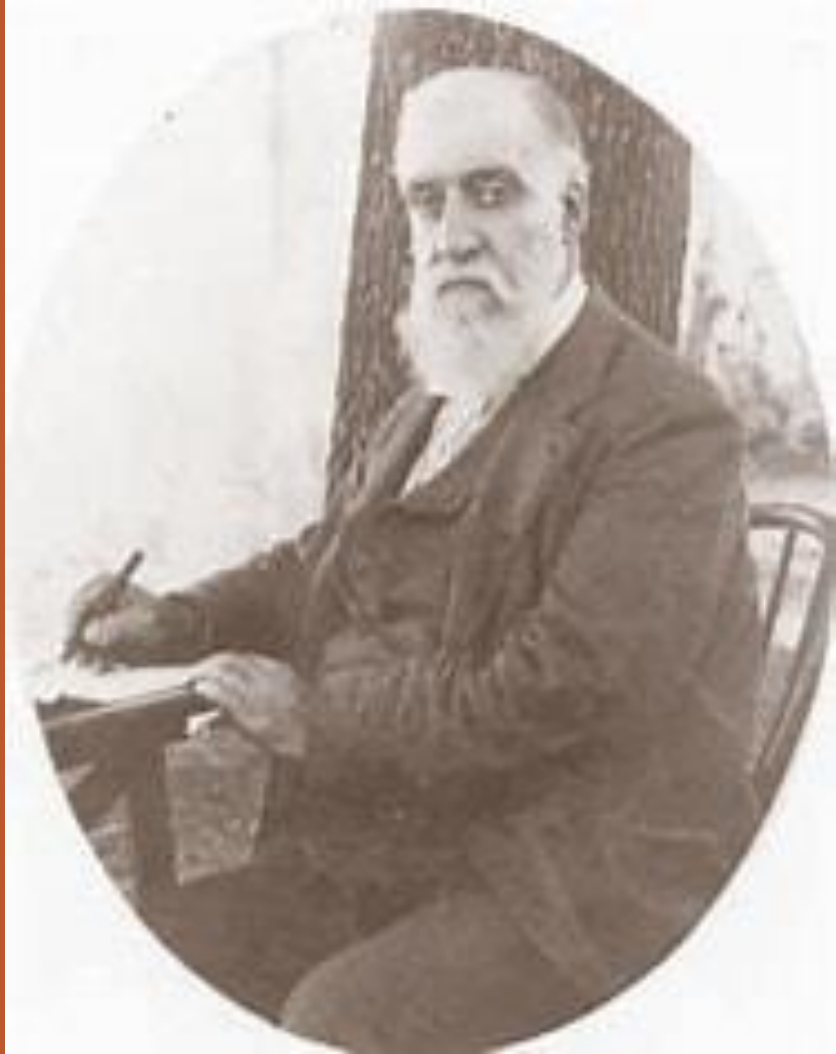
PROMISED LAND!

GPS..re-routing

for next

40 YEARS!

THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WANDERING IN THE WILDERNESS NU 34:20-35



Joseph Smith III wrote:

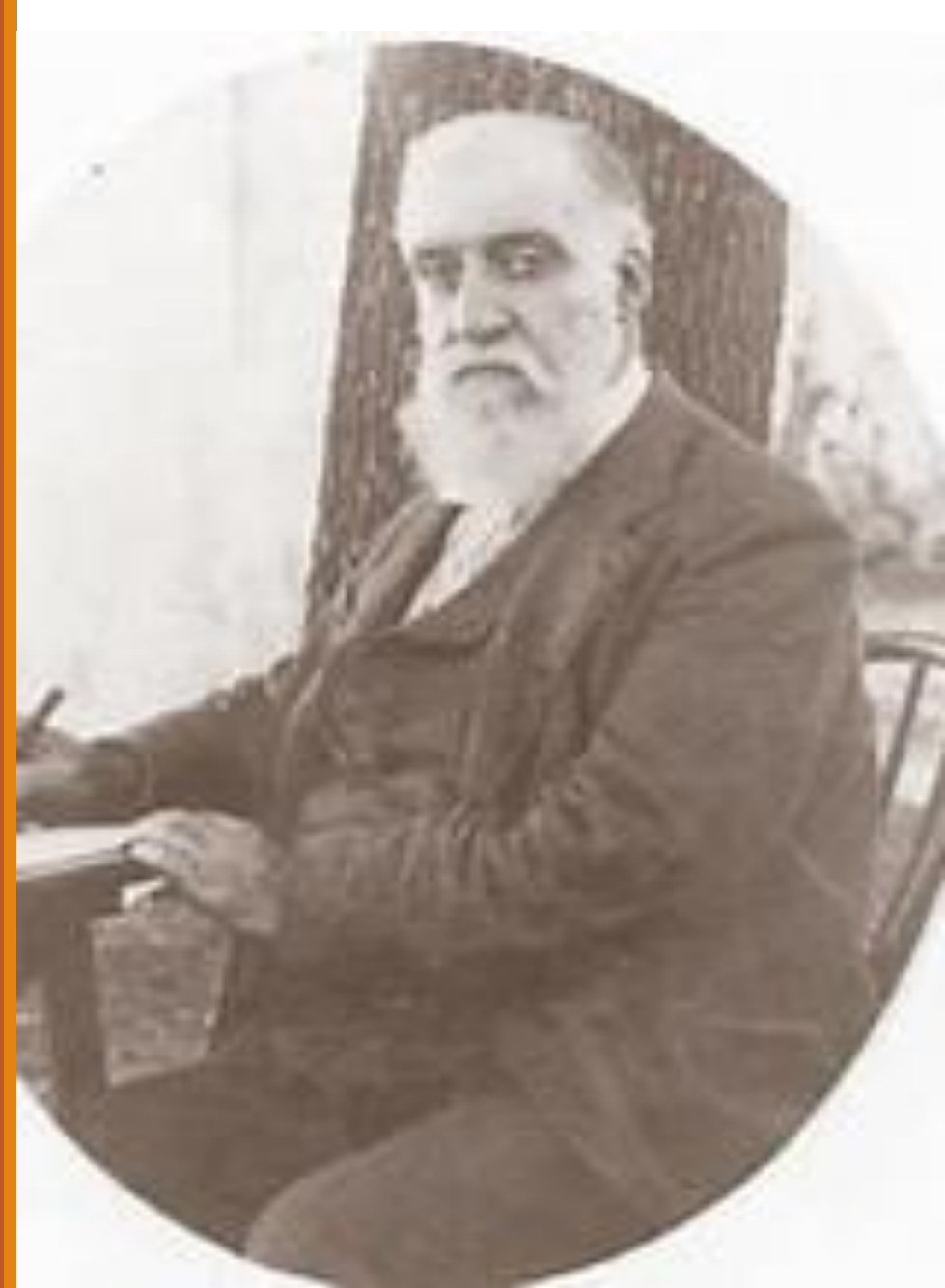
*“Where was the Church
during the lapse of time
between the disorganization
and the reorganization?”*



1844-1852

“It was with the remnant scattered abroad, who remained true to the principles first given as the gospel of Christ and with any body of such remnant, numbering six or more, under the pastoral charge of an elder, priest, teacher, or deacon.”

***Foundations of the Reorganization,*
Church History 5:346; see also 5:52**



“DARK AND CLOUDY DAY”

TODAY

Missouri troubles

1831-1832



“...and it shall come to pass
that I the Lord God will send

one mighty and strong

holding the scepter of power in his hand clothed
with light for a covering whose mouth shall utter
words, eternal words while his bowels shall be a
fountain of truth to set in order the house of God...”



Joseph Smith Jr. letter to William W. Phelps, November 27, 1832

Church History, vol.1, pg.260

Times and Seasons Vol. 5, pp 673-674

DC 100:3d February 24, 1834 Kirtland Ohio

Behold, I say unto you,
The redemption of Zion
must needs come by **power**;
therefore I will raise
up unto my people a man,
who shall lead them like as
Moses led the children of Israel, for ye are the
children of Israel, and of the seed of Abraham;



Since the death of Joseph Smith Jr., no less than 35 individuals have been listed by others as the **“One Mighty and Strong”**. Of the 35, 23 are self identified.

Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought, **39**(3): 18–45 (Fall 2006)

Date of initial claim	Identifier	Person identified
various times (1844–present)	Some members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Strangite)	James Strang
1851	Jason W. Briggs	Joseph Smith III?
1867	William W. Phelps	Adam
c. 1870s	Oliver B. Huntington and others	Brigham Young
1887	James Brighthouse	Self
1898	William David Creighton "W.D.C." Pattyson	Self
1900	Committee of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints	Possibly Jesus Christ , although left open.
1905	Samuel Eastman	Self
1905	John T. Clark	Self

c. 1930s	Paul Feil	Self
1932	Francis M. Darter	"an Indian prophet"
1934	Benjamin F. LeBaron and LeBaron family	Self
1936	J. H. Sherwood	Self; renamed Jasper No. 7
1938	Joseph W. Musser	Joseph Smith
1943	William A. Draves	John the Baptist
early 1950s	Theron Drew	Merl Kilgore
1955	Joel F. LeBaron and LeBaron family	Self
1955	Ross Wesley LeBaron	"an Indian prophet"
1958	William C. Conway	Eachta Eachta Na, a nineteenth century "young white Indian" from Yucatan

1960	LeRoy Wilson	Self
1960	Alonzo Langford	Self
1960	William L. Goldman	Self
1964	Alexandre R. Caffiaux	Self
1967	Ervil LeBaron	Self
1975	David Roberts	Self
1975	John W. Bryant	Self
1977	Eugene O. Walton	Self
1980s	Frank Miller	Self
1980s	Ron and Dan Lafferty	Self
1983	Art Bulla	Self
c. 1997	Brian David Mitchell	Self
c. 2017	Some members of the Fellowships of the Remnant (Snufferite) movement	Denver Snuffer Jr.

Joseph Smith III however stated that “I do not personally claim to be the one **mighty and strong.**”

**Stated throughout his tenure as Prophet/President Last recorded 1902.
The Memoirs of President Joseph Smith III (1832-1914) pg.451b/*

“Agreed, that the question of who the one ‘**mighty and strong**’ is, whether **Christ or man**, be left an open question until further revelation from God shall definitely determine who it is.”

*Agreements of Working Harmony #18.
Church History Vol. 7 pg.282*

The official position of the RLDS Church...

“Whereas, we have received no divine communication authorizing any particular interpretation of the revelation before us; and as the Reorganized Church has never taken action upon the matter;

The official position of the RLDS Church...

Resolved, that we leave it an open question, to be decided as God may develop his purposes among us, while we acknowledge the leading features in it to be prominently characteristic of **Jesus Christ**".

(General Conference committee report on who is the "One Mighty and Strong"
Church History Vol.5, pg. 493 *Independence Examiner April 9,1918*

For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A Prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that Prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

Acts 3:22-23

Among the things Moroni told Joseph on Sept. 23, 1823...

Joseph's words: "...He (Moroni) said that that prophet was Christ, but the day had not yet come when 'they who would not hear his voice should be cut off from among the people,' but soon would come."

Church History Vol. 1, pg.13

If the “**One Mighty and Strong**” will set the church in order and this person has not yet appeared, then what shall we do in the meantime?



1918 Protocol ?

Critical Thinking



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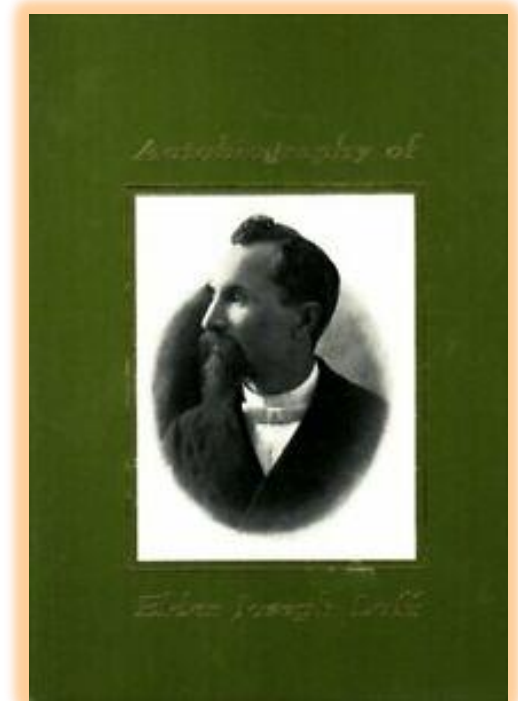
Summing Up

- **ONE JOB >>>> DECLARE AND FULFILL THE GOSPEL**
→ **The Great Commission** → **Everlasting Covenant**
- **The problems in the church will be fixed either by Himself or by someone He sends. It is yet to happen.**
- **Gospel was RESTORED *before* Church was ORGANIZED**

“Eternity will never reveal God’s seal affixed to two sides of a controverted issue.”

– Dr. Joseph Luff

Differences That Persist ... By Elbert A. Smith ch.2 pg.5





28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land,
and the cities are **WALLED**, and very great; and moreover
we saw the children of Anak there

33 And there we saw the **GIANTS**, the sons of Anak,
which come of the giants; and we were in our own sight as
grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able
to go up against the people; for **they are stronger than we.**

Session #3



1918

Protocol

1918 Protocol

#1 Promote and encourage Worship Fellowship Service

#2 Recognize Baptisms Confirmations Branch membership

#3 Recognize Authority AARONIC MELCHIZEDEK- (elder)

For families and individuals desiring to transfer membership into this restoration branch from specific groups.
This is done on a “case by case” basis

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

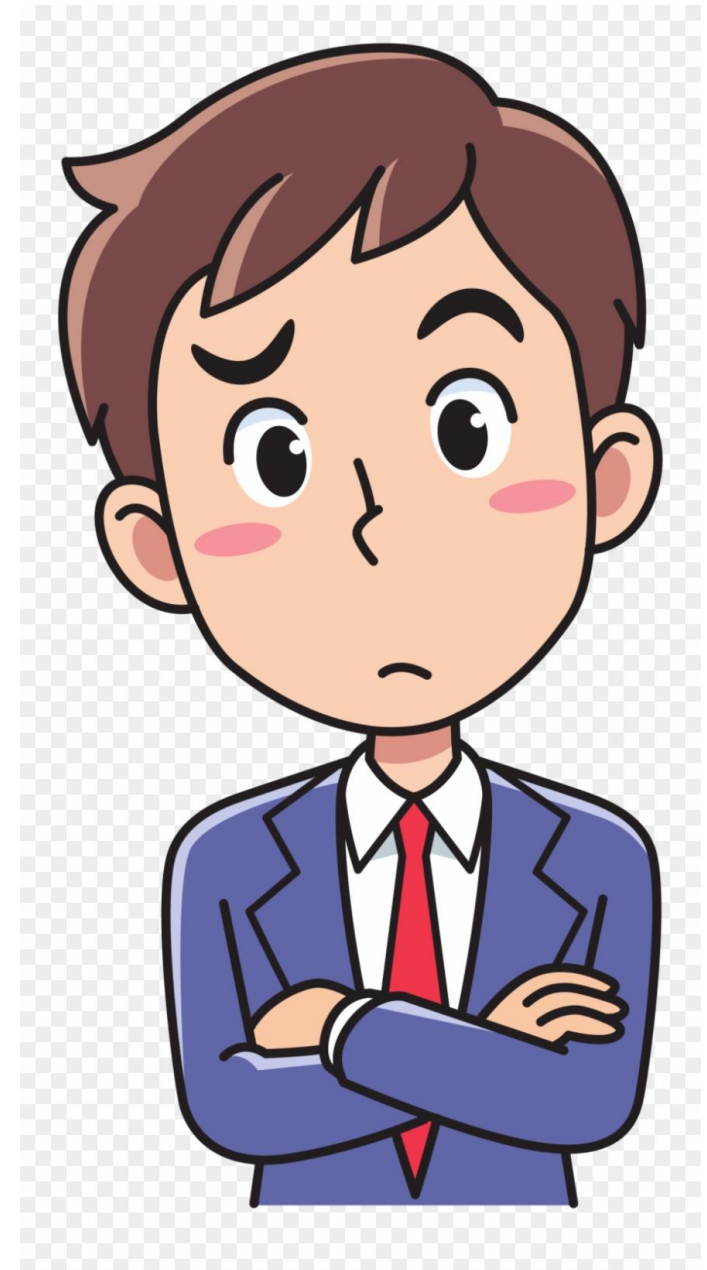
RLDS fundamental members (Bridge Branch)

Joint Conference of Restoration Branches

Everlasting Church of Jesus Christ in the Latter Day

**A way to proceed today
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To US...the

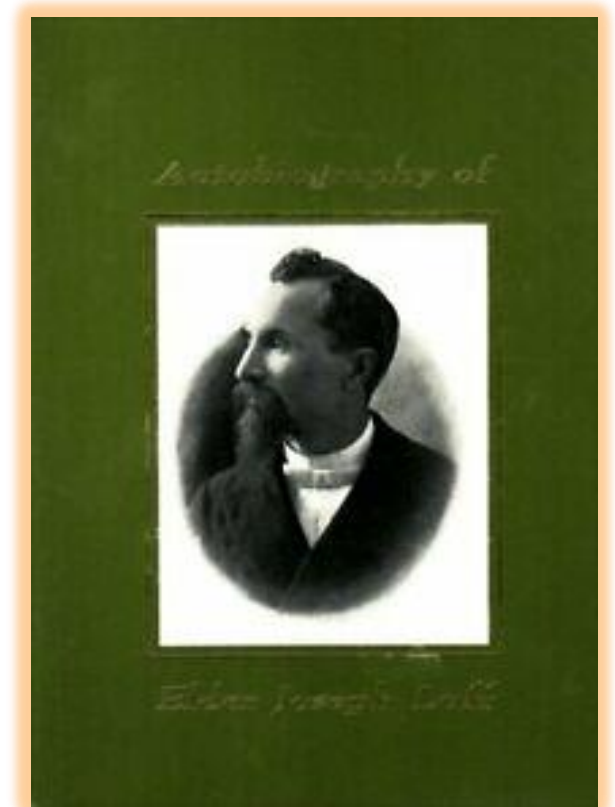
Body of Christ



“Eternity will never reveal God’s seal affixed to two sides of a controverted issue.”

– Dr. Joseph Luff

Differences That Persist ... By Elbert A. Smith ch.2 pg.5



We have an obvious problem



"SO, WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE PROBLEM?"

Brothers and sisters
are suffering



Broken relationships

Jealousy

Pride

Distrust

Disappointment

Anger

Discouragement

70% of Teens Quit Church After High School



Worse than that...

88% CPRS graduates



CENTER PLACE
RESTORATION SCHOOL
HOME OF THE GOLDEN EAGLES

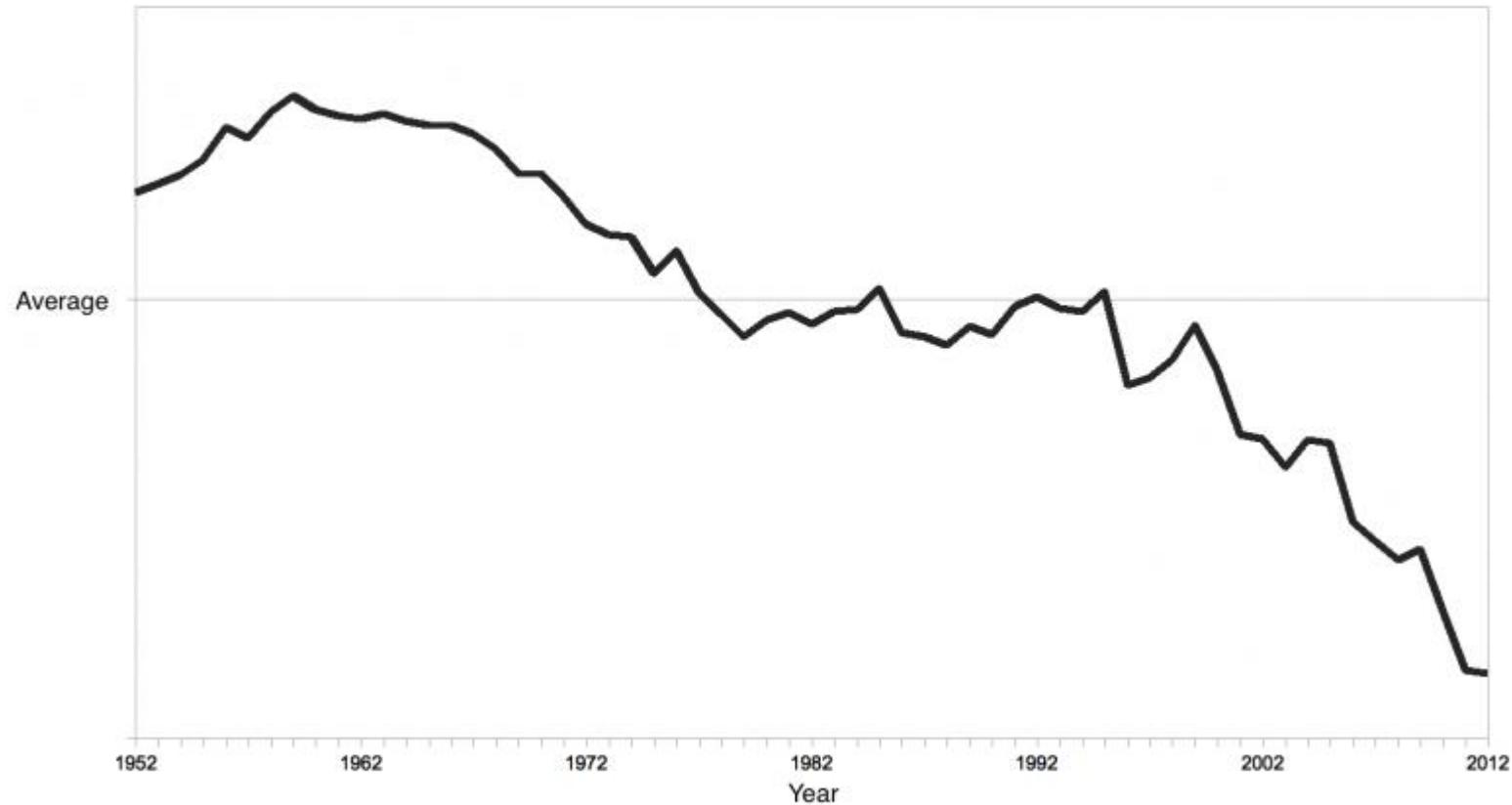


why?



Demographics

The Great Decline: 60 years of religion in America



Graph by Corner of Church & State, a Religion News Service blog
Source: Aggregate Religiosity Index, J. Tobin Grant. *Sociological Forum*.

US church affiliation

Starting in 1937 **73%**

1938 to 1998 **70%**

1999 - 2021 ...a steady decline

IN 2021...



47%

Our Lord told us it would be this way

**“This know also, that in the last days
perilous times shall come”**

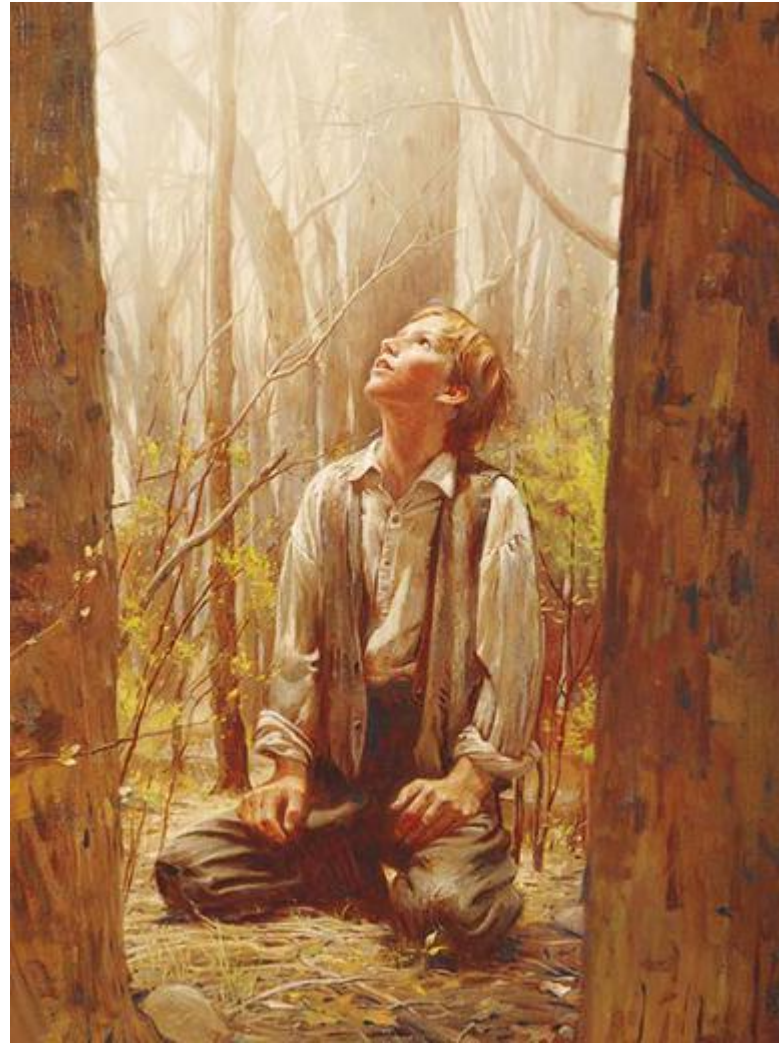
2 Timothy 3:1

Our Lord told us it would be this way

“I the Lord knowing the calamity...

D&C 1

Restoration



**Divine Power
Authority**

I will gather
them...

D&C 3



If you love me



FEED MY SHEEP

Unique to us...

The restoration is fractured because they...

started a new church

are practicing priestcraft

are in apostasy

teach false doctrine

have no authority

are historically wrong



April 6, 1860

Amboy Conference



“...Eli Mozarth Wildermuth was born November 22, 1836, and baptized at Lafayette, Wisconsin, August 15, 1850, by Zenos H. Gurley. He became a member of the Yellowstone Branch, and as such became a *charter member* of the Reorganization from its earliest meeting in 1852.”

1878

Section 119



“That the work of restoration to which the people of my church are looking forward may be hastened in its time, the elders must cease to be overcareful concerning the return of those who were once of the faith but were overcome in the dark and cloudy day, fearing lest they should bring in hidden heresies to the overthrowing of the work;

for verily, there are some who are chosen vessels to do good, who have been estranged by the hindering snares which are in the world and who will in due time return unto the Lord if they be not hindered by the men of the church.”

Doctrine and Covenants 119:4a-4b

“ It may be sufficient for me here to note that an important addition was made to the Quorum of Twelve, and an important revelation was received and accepted.

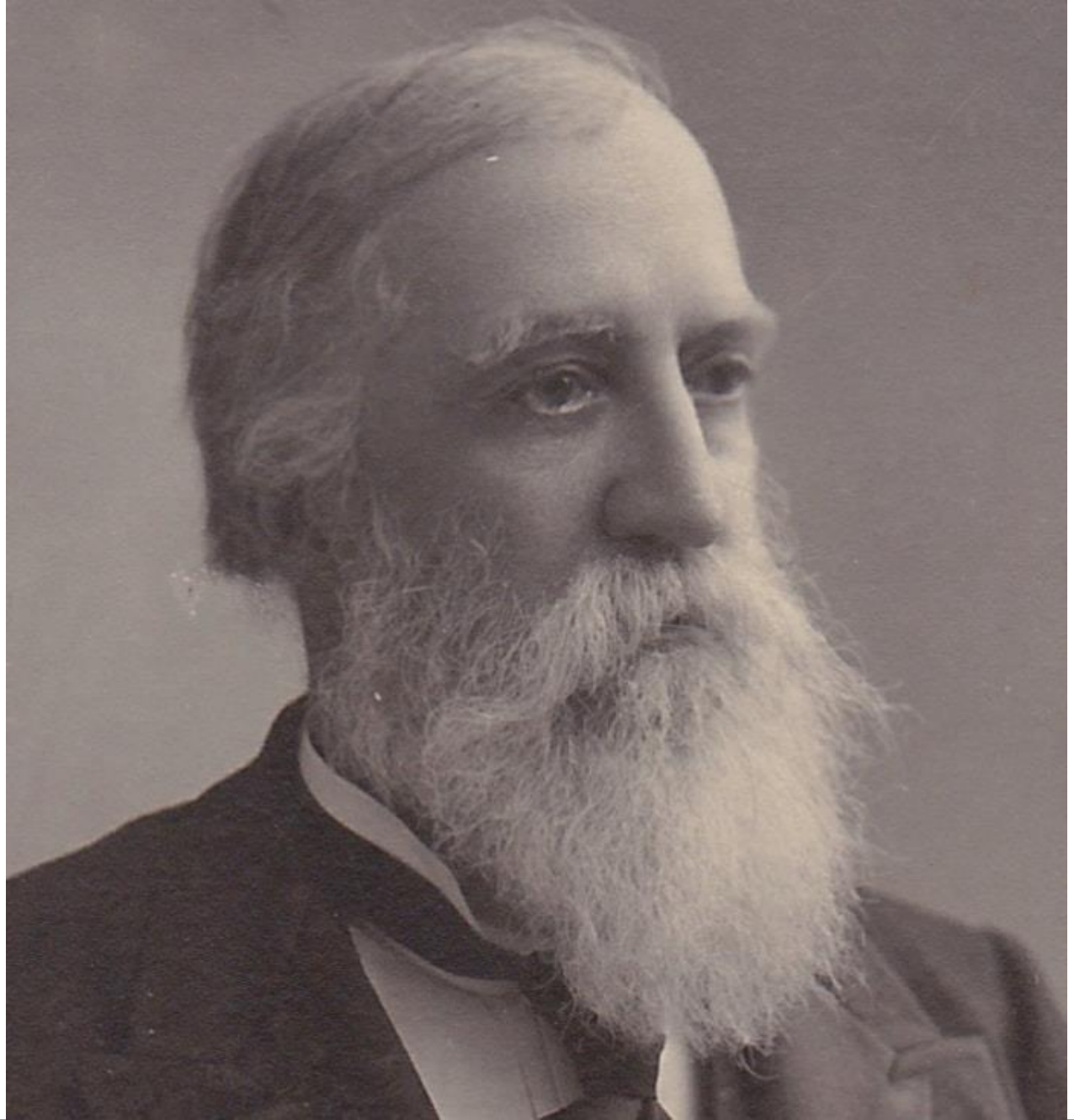
Some portions of that revelation will inevitable prove valuable as a basic principle tending to unity and amity and the amalgamation possibly of many sections or factions into which the church was divided after the death of the prophet.”

1893

“...we believe that there are individuals in the different factions who hold the priesthood.”



1896



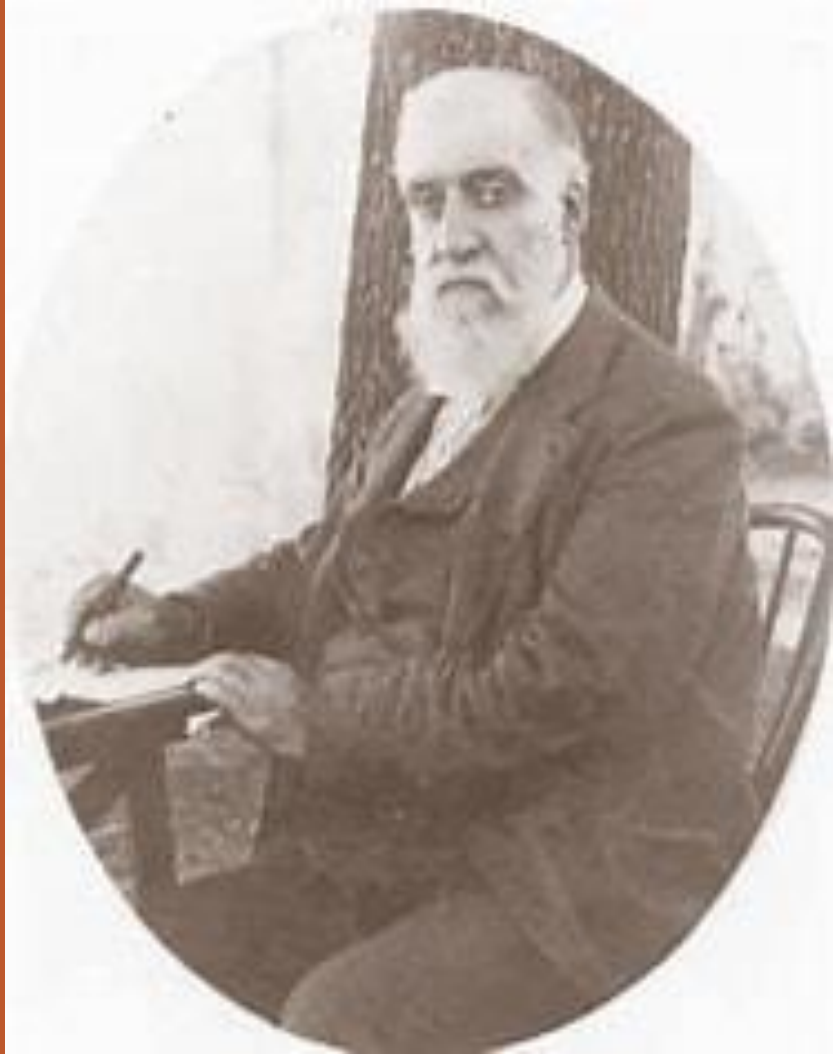
“Anyone holding the Melchisedec priesthood could at the command of God, ordain to any office in the church; and could, in case of necessity required it, perform any duty that an apostle might under the same conditions. It is provided for in the revelation on priesthood, Sec. 104, of our book.”

Letter to Brother J.M. Stubbart, Octavia, Nebraska May 19th, 1896.

The Memories of President Joseph Smith III Pg. 331b /

The Saints Herald October 24, 1936

Where is the church today?



Joseph Smith III wrote:

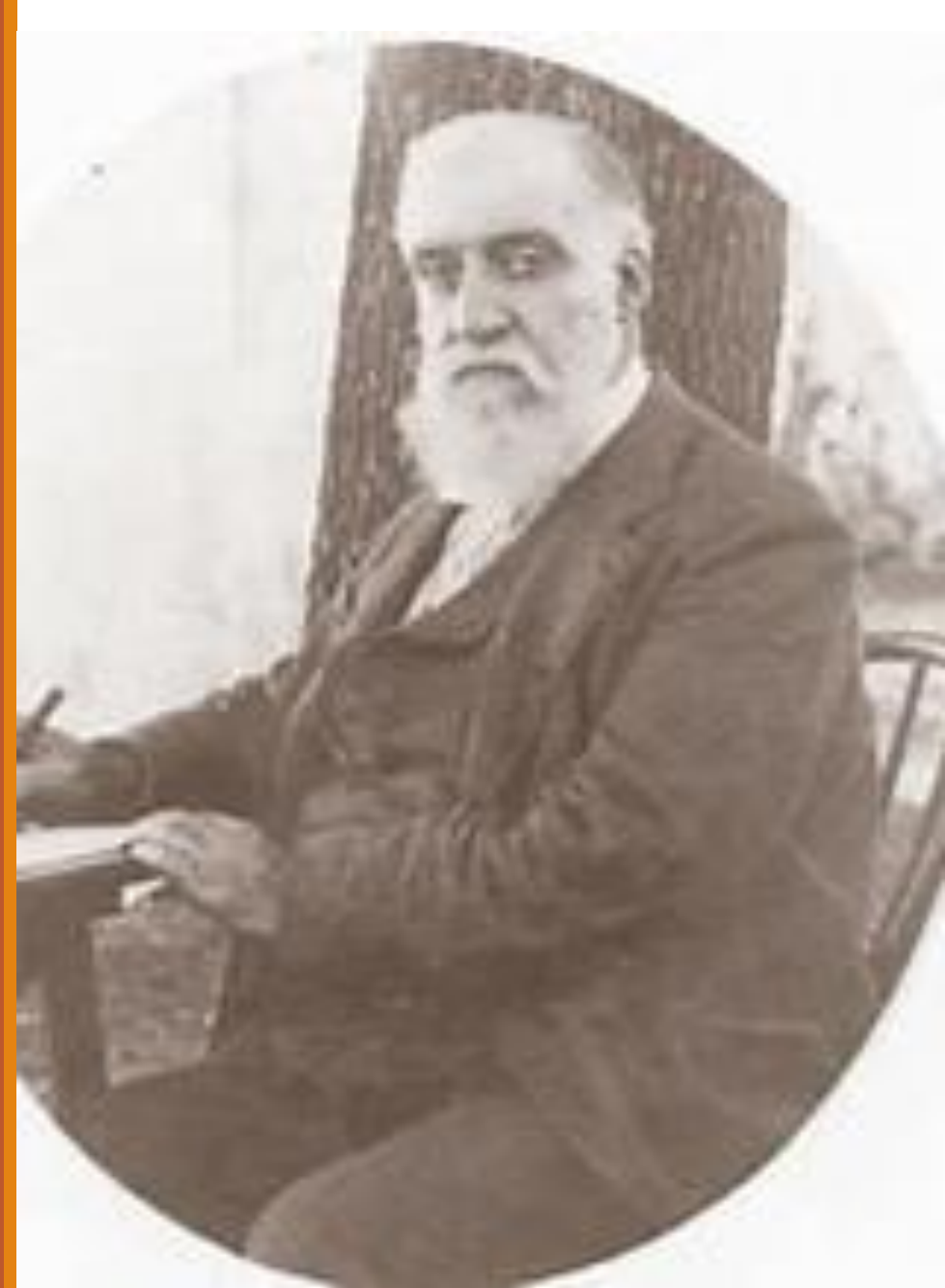
*“Where was the Church
during the lapse of time
between the disorganization
and the reorganization?”*



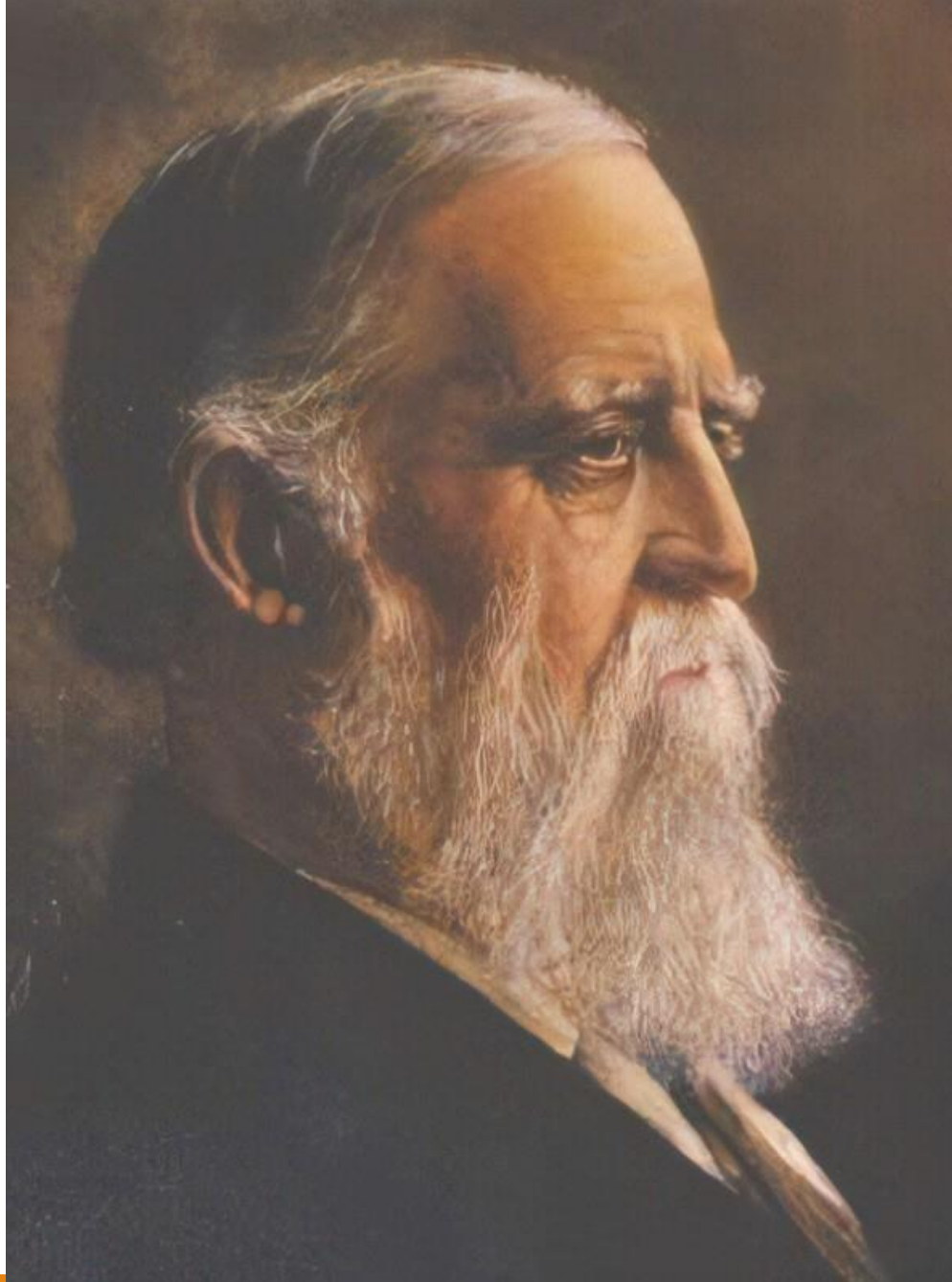
1844-1852

“It was with the remnant scattered abroad, who remained true to the principles first given as the gospel of Christ and with any body of such remnant, numbering six or more, under the pastoral charge of an elder, priest, teacher, or deacon.”

***Foundations of the Reorganization,*
Church History 5:346; see also 5:52**



1911



Joseph Smith III con't.

“In the practice of the church in receiving members from different organizations, into which the original church was divided,

if a member shows a regular reception into the church under the hands of a regularly qualified minister, we have been quite willing to accept such persons on their original baptism.”

Joseph Smith III con't:

“All baptisms performed prior to June 27, 1844 have been held legitimate, and persons so baptized were entitled to be enrolled at their request.

Persons baptized after that date, if baptized by those holding priesthood who were not in transgression, we have been willing to accept also, and as a finality all to whose baptism the Spirit hath borne witness we have held it our duty to accept.

Joseph Smith III con't.

“The Book of Covenants teaches there are but two priesthoods; the Levitical or Aaronic and the Melchisedec.”

Joseph Smith III con't:

“All, the officers of the church hold nothing more than these two priesthoods, though they may hold different offices, such as presidents, apostles, seventy, elders, priests, teachers, deacons, etc.

Joseph Smith III con't:

No one holds any higher priesthood than another in the Melchisedec. The same is true in the Aaronic.”

Joseph Smith III, Independence, Missouri, to W.E. Winkworth, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1 February 1911, typed original and typescript, P19, f63, items 3-7 Community of Christ Archives

Note: William Edward Winkworth born 1842, died 1913 at age 71 years

ARTICLES OF WORKING HARMONY

*In **1918**, after many years of meetings and discussion the “Articles of Working Harmony” between the RLDS and Church of Christ (Temple Lot) were adopted. Twenty-four points of agreement were agreed on. Point #7 addressed factions:*

“Agreed, that we believe that there are individuals in the different factions who hold the priesthood.”

Apostasy ?

scriptural reason to separate

“If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness; **from such withdraw thyself.**”

Apostasy ?

*In an editorial following the 1918 Conference, Elbert A. Smith listed four points that would **test for apostasy**.*



1. "...our Church of Christ brethren had established their claims so far as they may be involved in tracing baptism and priesthood back to valid original sources.
2. "As an organization they have held to the fundamental doctrines of the church."

Brother Elbert con't;



3. "...and have been guilty of no moral lapse.
4. "...in the face of adroit efforts to bribe and seduce from their trust they have kept themselves clear from evil forces and designing men."

Brother Elbert then concluded:



“...Hence no charge of apostasy from the original faith could be supported, were there any among us inclined at this time to make such a charge.”

Jason W. Briggs
President pro-tem RLDS Church
1852-1860



Jason W. Briggs indicated years later in sworn testimony that the RLDS church accepted the ordinations of individuals from the factional groups as legitimate from the office of deacon, teacher, priest and elder. The caveat was their ordinations were considered legal if they were not involved in apostasy.



“ ...The point was raised at that conference, and substantially decided, as I understood it, that James J. Strang and William Smith could ordain certain officers, could ordain elders, priest, and teachers. We derived that authority from the laws laid down in the books of authority in the church.

Ordinations by James J. Strang and William Smith to the office of seventies, high priests, apostles, or patriarchs, were not accepted...with one single exception...the office excepted was high priest.”

Question ...



If we cannot justify or defend

Scripturally

Historically

our current separations...



WHY

ARE WE

FRACTURED?



ANSWER



We do not have Zion today
because
we do not have enough

→ LOVE ←

Arthur Oakman



Session #4

1918

Protocol

Listen

“I believe that we don’t listen to each other very well. When we are in conversation, we are often putting together our own reply instead of listening to the other.

When someone is talking, I have discovered that it helps to look him or her in the face. Not only to look at them but to be present for them. This means to give them your support, even your unspoken support.

Let them know that you are listening and hearing them not just with your ears but with your whole being. It will aid in our understanding of them.

To hear and understand each other is part of our task.”

1918 Protocol

#1 Promote and encourage Worship Fellowship Service

#2 Recognize Baptisms Confirmations Branch membership

#3 Recognize Authority AARONIC MELCHIZEDEK- (elder)

Welcome!!!



those who desire transfer into our branch

For families and individuals desiring to transfer membership into this restoration branch from specific groups. It is done on a “case by case” basis

Restoration Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Remnant Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

RLDS fundamental members (including Bridge Branch)

Joint Conference of Restoration Branches

Everlasting Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

*It's a
Baby
Step*



Baby Step???



*Yes... but
profound!*

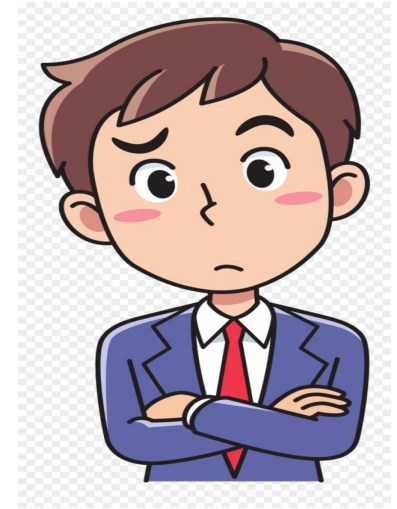
*It could
bring*
HEALING



To US...the

Body of Christ





It does not fix the church



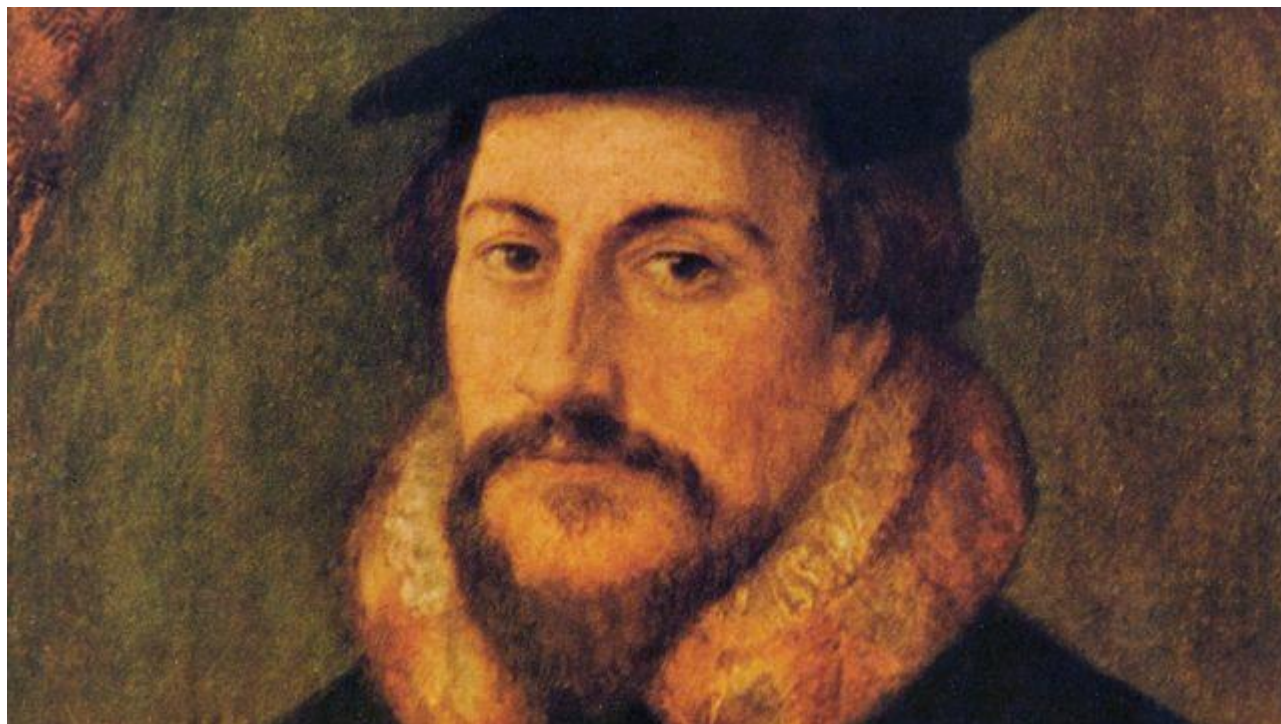
Jesus will do that

either Himself or by someone He sends

Since Jesus will fix it...



...then we are off the hook...don't have to do anything



John Calvin



John Darby



ONE JOB...

The Great Commission

The Everlasting Covenant

THEN 1844-1852

NOW 1984-2022

Same Thing

> CONFUSION AND DOUBT

>> DISCOURAGEMENT

>>> FRACTURED RELATIONSHIPS

>>>> DIVISION <<<<

WHY?



HYPOCRITE



HYPOCRITE



LYER

LYER





PANTS ON

FIRE !!





ACCUSATIONS

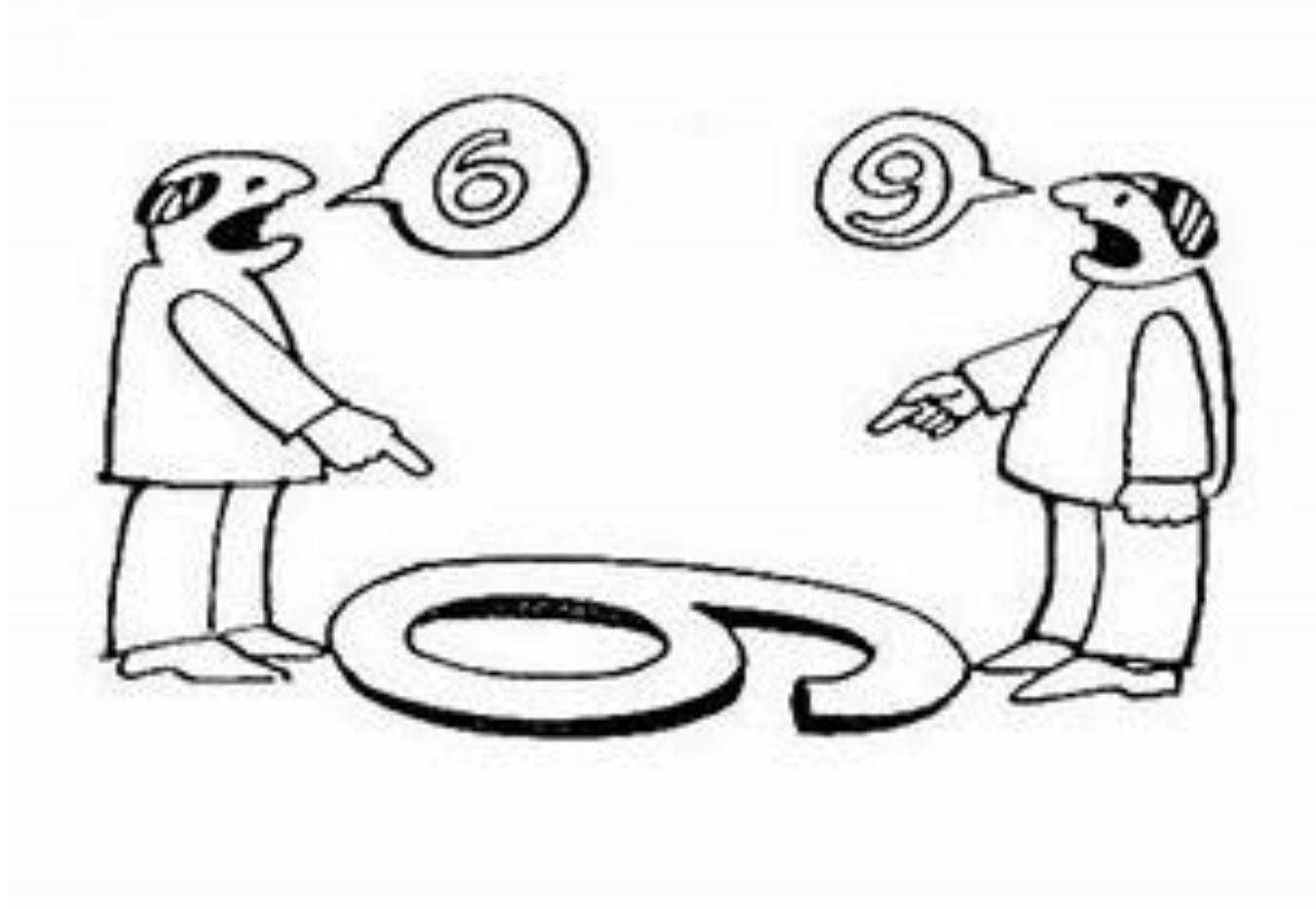


We argue, we hurt each other...



OFTEN... PASSIVELY

We sometimes disagree over perspectives...



NOT FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS ??

We have wandered now for
38 years...



MOSES, IT'S BEEN 40 YEARS. WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO ADMIT WE'RE LOST AND ASK FOR DIRECTIONS?



Arie Van De Graaff

A fluffy, light-colored kitten is lying on its back on a wooden floor. The kitten's front paws are held up near its eyes, and its hind legs are also visible. The kitten has a pleading or desperate expression on its face.

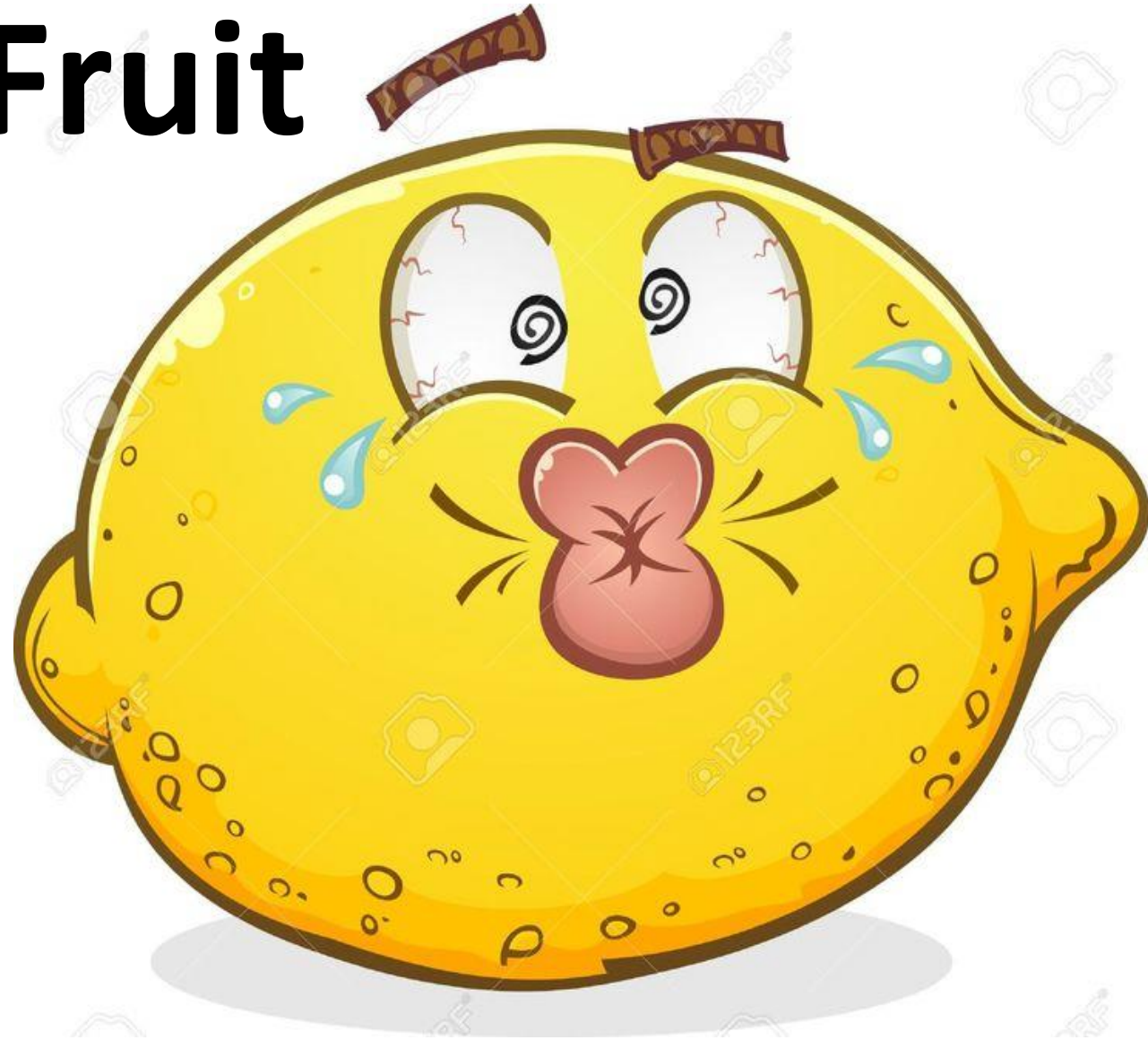
WAIT!

DON'T LEAAAWVEEE

WHY?



Bitter Fruit



adultery

lasciviousness

fornication

hatred

emulations

drunkenness

strife

seditions

wrath

heresies

VARIANCE

revellings

idolatry

murders

witchcraft

envyings

uncleanness

Galatians 5: 19-21



On

V a r i a n c e

VARIANCE (noun)

“strife, discord, **contention**, conflict”



Sometimes active

But...

Mostly Passive



...as I have also told you in time past, that

they which do such things shall *not* inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:19-21

CONTENTION

Joseph Smith Jr. Doctrine and Covenants 3

1828

15c ...and this I do, that I may establish my gospel, that there may not be so much **contention**;

15d ...yea, Satan doth stir up the hearts of the people to **contention**, concerning the points of my doctrine; and in these things they do err, for they do wrest the Scriptures, and do not understand them;

Fayette New York Spring **1831**

“Behold... I say unto you, Be one;
and if ye are not one, ye are not
mine.”

VARIENCE (noun)

“strife, discord, **contention**,”

CONTENTION

Doctrine and Covenants 92

*June 1, **1833***

2b...therefore, I commanded you to tarry, even as mine apostles at Jerusalem; nevertheless, my servants sinned a very grievous sin; and **contentions** arose in the school of the prophets, which was very grievous unto me...

VARIENCE (noun)

❖ “strife, discord, **contention**,”

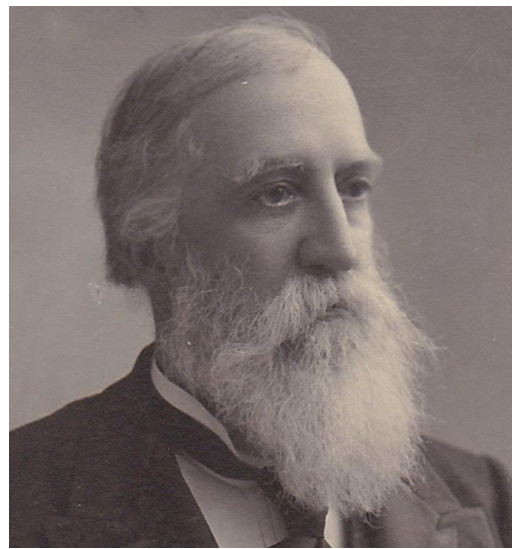
CONTENTION

Doctrine and Covenants 98

*December 16, **1833***

3a...Behold, I say unto you, there were jarrings, and **contentions**, and envyings, and strifes, and lustful and covetous desires among them; therefore by these things they polluted their inheritances.

Joseph Smith III



1872--117:13... Let **contentions** and quarrelings among you cease.

1887--119:5a ...And the Spirit saith further: **Contention** is unseemly;
therefore, cease to **contend**...

--119:6b...Therefore, in all the congregations of the people of God, let
all strife and **contention** ...cease;

Joseph Smith III

1914

---131:4a The Spirit saith further, that the

spirit of distrust and want of confidence in those who are called and ordained to act in the various responsible positions in the priesthood and in authority in the church is unbecoming those professing faith in God, Jesus Christ his Son, and the Holy Spirit of truth, and **evinces a serious lack of that charity** which Paul, an apostle of Christ, declared to be the quality of Christian virtue which thinketh no evil...

Frederick M. Smith



1915---132:2bc... let **contention** cease concerning the prerogatives of the leading quorums. The work awaiting the efforts of the missionary forces is great and there is no time for **contentions**.

1920 ---133:2b Let them not be unduly concerned with the work of the standing ministry, only as they shall be directed by the Presidency therein; and let **contention** cease concerning the prerogatives of the leading quorums. The work awaiting the efforts of the missionary forces is great and there is no time for **contentions**.

1922-134:7...Let **contention** cease.

1925---135:2a...the church is admonished once again that the great task laid upon it can not be accomplished if **contention** continues...

1930---136:3b...**Contentions**, bickerings, and strife are unseemly, hinder the work of the church, and should not find place...

Israel A. Smith



1950---142:5b... It is yet day when all can work.

The night will come when for many of my people
opportunity to assist will have passed.

Contention is palpable



pal·pa·ble

['pʌlpəb(ə)l]

ADJECTIVE

1.(of a feeling or atmosphere) so intense as to seem almost tangible:

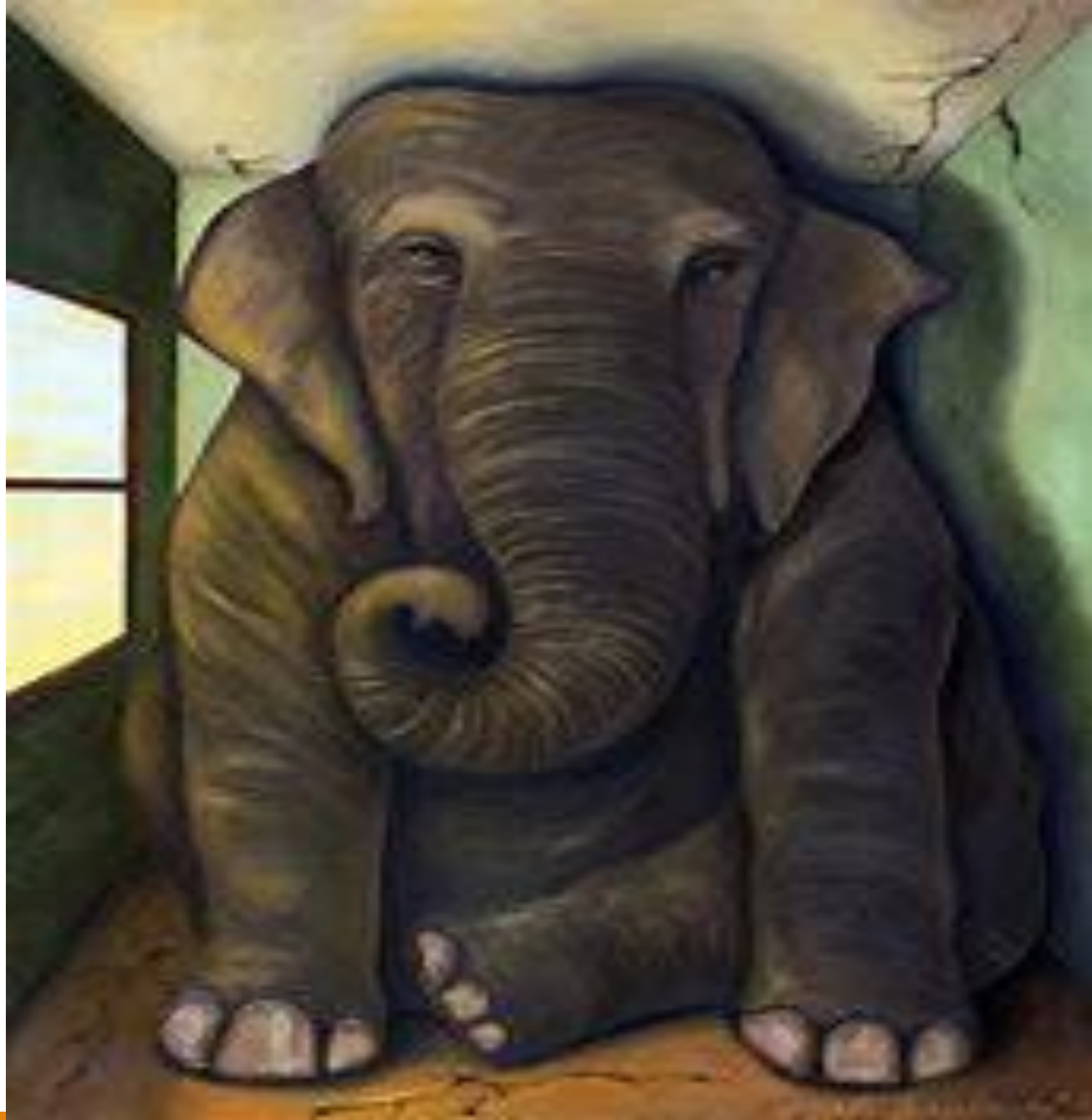
2."a palpable sense of loss"

3.synonyms:

4.[perceptible](#) · [perceivable](#) · [visible](#) ·

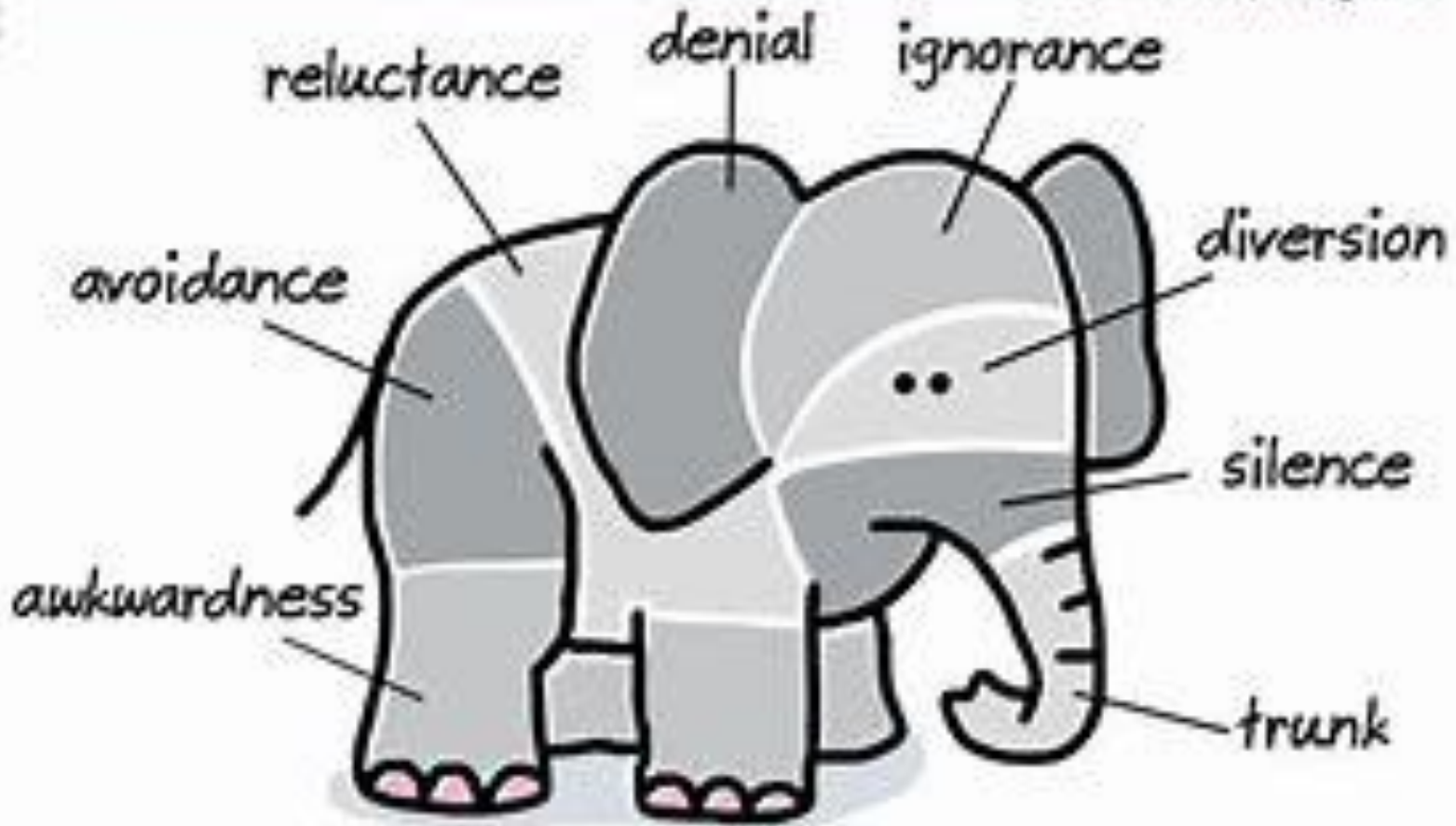
5.[noticeable](#)

6.pain to see or comprehend:



PARTS OF THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

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Contention?

NO...Just "Tough Love"



Is

“tough love”

really love?

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson

If your son is stubborn, disobeys,
and does NOT CLEAN HIS ROOM..
take him to the city gates

and **STONE**
HIM!

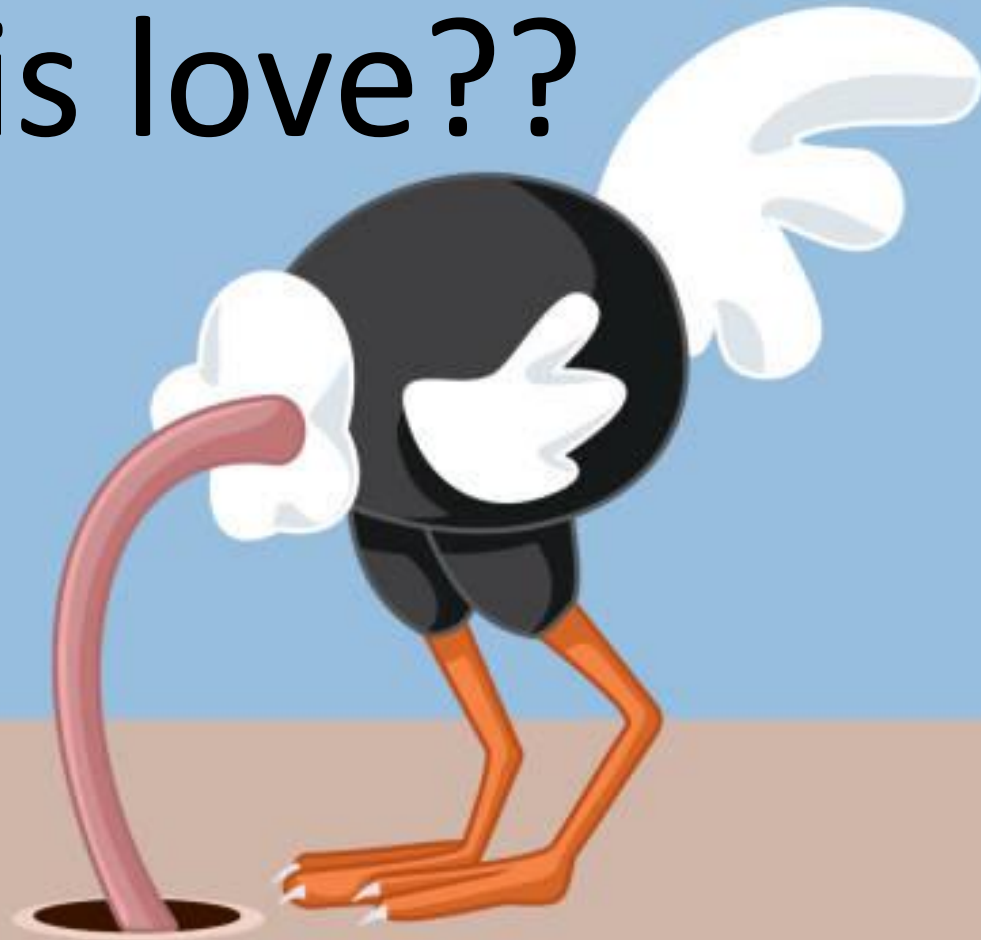


TOUGH LOVE for sons who refuse to obey their
dads. **Deut 21:18-21**

Is this love?



Is this love??



Is this love??





Not so much this...



...But this

Elie Wiesel

Romanian-born American writer, professor, political activist, Nobel laureate, and Holocaust survivor. He authored 57 books, written mostly in French and English, including *Night*, a work based on his experiences as a Jewish prisoner in the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps



**“The opposite of love is not hate,
It’s indifference”**

1 Corinthians 13

GOOSE EGG

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. — 1 CORINTHIANS 13:2-3 NIV

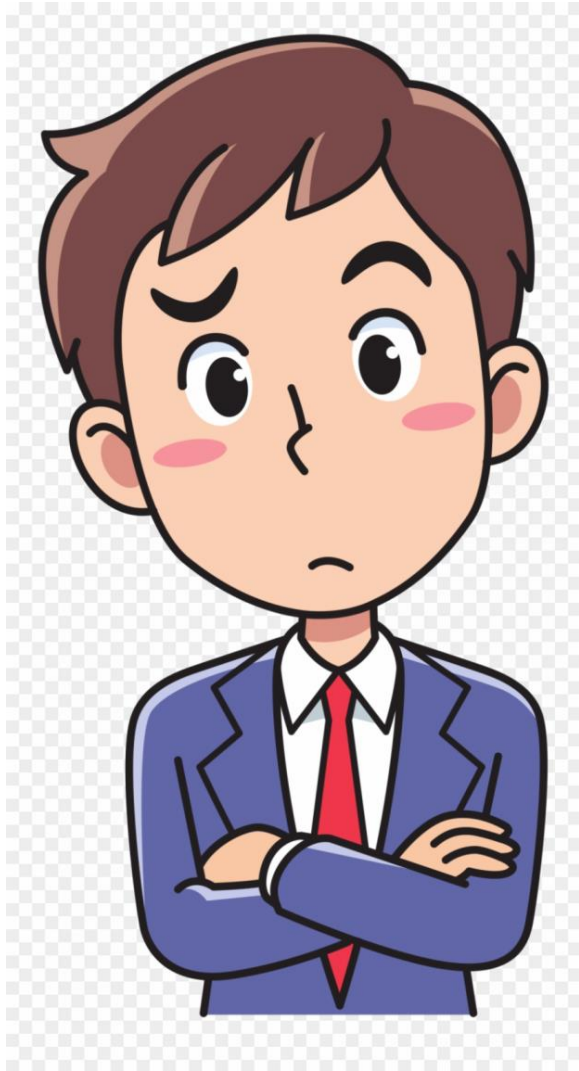
At the start...



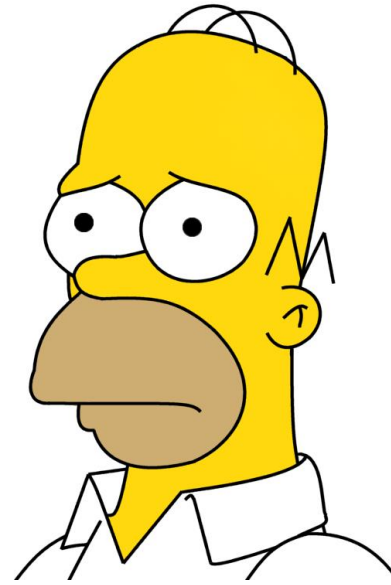
Believe it

Don't believe it

Don't know



Honestly Mistaken??



**If one is honestly mistaken and finds truth,
then going forward,
he is either no longer mistaken
or no longer honest.**



The question is...

Is this true?

1918 Protocol

Session #1

- A baby step, yet profound
- To bring healing to us, the Body of Christ

Session #1

- Based on the 1918 “Agreement of Working Harmony” between the RLDS and Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
- Showed how it worked on a day-to-day basis

Session #2

- The church today is in a “dark and cloudy day”.
- It will be set in order by the “One Mighty and Strong” whether it be Christ or man. This has not happened yet.
- What do we do in the meantime?

Session #2

- Jesus gave us one job which is to fulfill the Great Commission and the Everlasting Covenant
- The Priesthood was Divinely restored prior to the church being organized
- We often have placed first-priority on the Church instead of the Gospel

Session #3

- “Eternity will never reveal God’s seal affixed to two sides of a controverted issue.” Luff
- The body of Christ is suffering and we as priesthood bear responsibility
- Scriptural and historical facts which support the
1918 Protocol

Session #3

- The 1918 Protocol calls for each branch to act by publicly accepting or rejecting.
- Merely acknowledging the protocol is of no effect unless action happens
- Can we explain and defend scripturally and historically our current position?

Session #4

- Our members cite hypocrisy and contention as major causes for leaving the church.
- The Restoration Branches are suffering anemia due to the loss of brothers and sisters, especially our youth and young families
- Scriptural and historical references about contention
 - **Call to act**

Behold, this is my doctrine:
Whosoever repenteth and cometh
unto me, the same is my church;

Doctrine and Covenants 3:16a

August 1828

And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my **Zion** at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;

1 Nephi 3:187

END

3 Nephi 5:18 And it came to pass that he spake unto **Nephi**, (for **Nephi** was among the multitude,) and he commanded him that he should come forth.

3 Nephi 5:19 And **Nephi** arose and went forth, and bowed himself before the Lord, and he did kiss his feet.

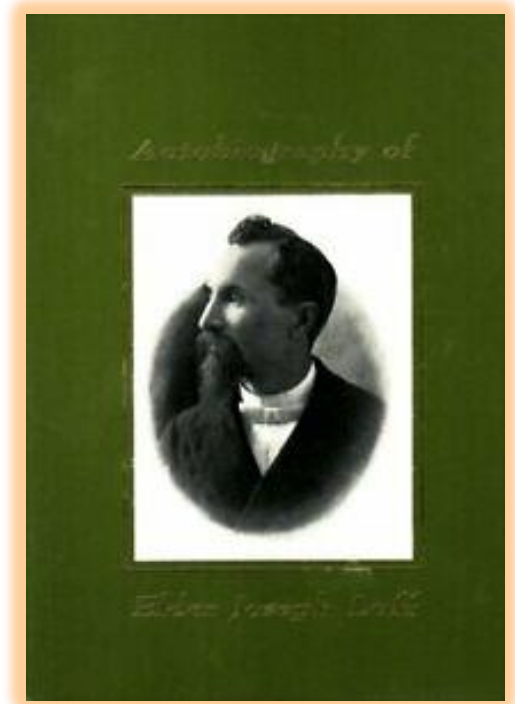


08-02-2013

“Eternity will never reveal God’s seal affixed to two sides of a controverted issue.”

– Dr. Joseph Luff

Differences That Persist ... By Elbert A. Smith ch.2 pg.5



My Testimony

Danny,

this is my church

Doctrine and Covenants

Section 4

Section 11

Section 12

Those who are NOT willing to give up “rank or position are rejected

Those who are willing (submit) are CALLED

In 1918

the RLDS Church and the Church of Christ (Hedrickite or Temple Lot) adopted the “Agreements of Working Harmony”

Church History Vol. 7 pg.280-282

The “Agreements of Working Harmony” was presented to both the RLDS General Conference and the Church of Christ Conference. The First Presidency, Twelve, Seventy, High Priests, and Bishops unanimously supported it.

In general session, the delegates also voted overwhelmingly in favor with but one single dissenting vote. The Church of Christ also voted unanimously to adopt the Agreements.

Ibid. pg. 283-284

Protocol

NOUN:

*...the accepted or established code of
or behavior in any group, organization,
or situation*

Protocol

synonyms

· etiquette · social practice · custom · usage · use · habit

· procedure · rules · convention · tradition · fashion · style

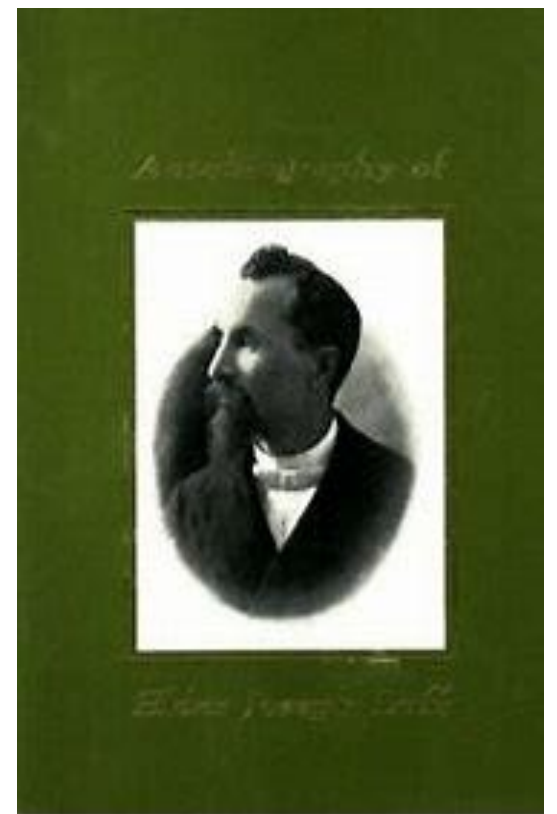
· routine · ritual · pattern · regimen · policy · method

· system · way · rule · formula

**Heirs of the Reorganization
are Divinely required to work
together.**

**“Eternity will never reveal
God’s seal affixed to two sides
sides of a controverted issue.”**

– Dr. Joseph Luff



In 1896, referencing the **“DARK AND CLOUDY DAY” 1844-1852**

Joseph Smith III wrote:

***“Where was the Church
during the lapse of time between
the disorganization and the
reorganization?”***

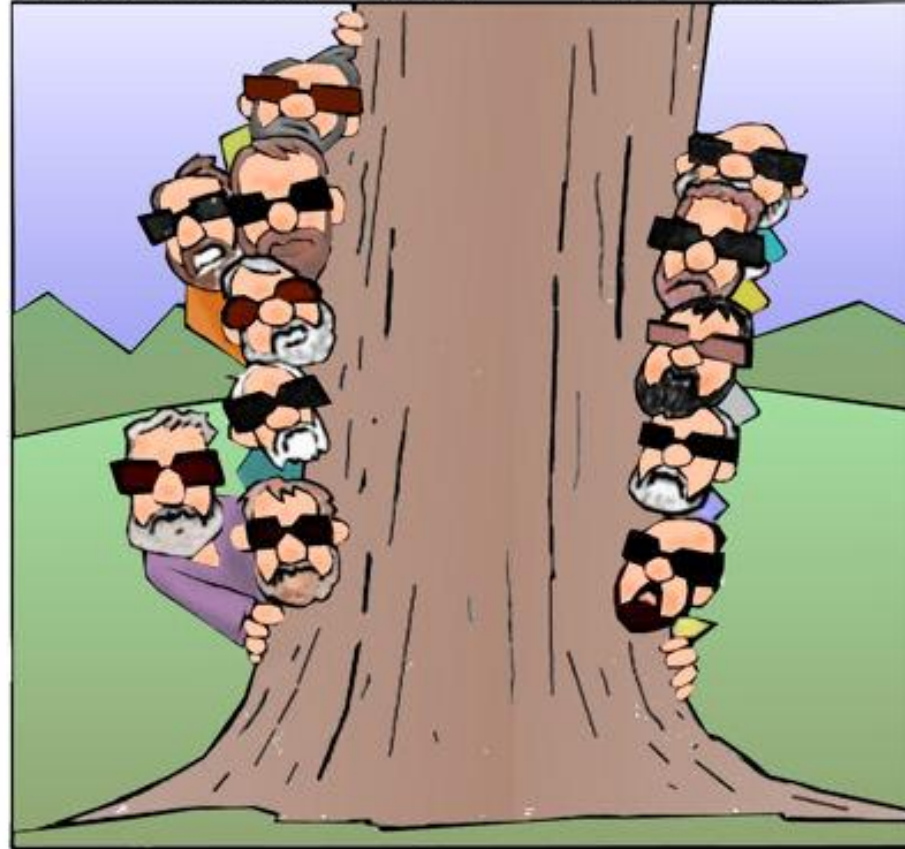
In 1896 Joseph Smith III wrote:

“It was with the remnant scattered abroad, who remained true to the principles first given as the gospel of Christ and with any body of such remnant, numbering six or more, under the pastoral charge of an elder, priest, teacher, or deacon.”

Foundations of the Reorganization, Church History 5:346; see also 5:52

Reconnaissance Report:

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



The 12 Spies.. INCOGNITO!! Numbers 13

Consuming bitter fruit
makes us sick



I love you...



The Memoirs Of President
Joseph Smith III (1832-1914)



INSPIRED MESSAGE THROUGH PATRIARCH VERNON DARLING
APRIL 6, 2003 – AUDITORIUM IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

This morning we were invited to come here to meet our Heavenly Father for His benediction. There has come to this servant of the Lord those spiritual indications that it is well that we have come together at this time. Our experience in coming here points to our need and our calling to be together, one body coming together under the principles of the Celestial Kingdom.

Our longing for God has to be a longing to prepare a place for Him in Zion. One of the truths of the gospel is that Zion will emerge. Only the person who seeks to bring forth and establish the cause of Zion, and walks in Zion's light, is aware of God in his experiences in life and understands Zion and lives for it.

We are called to be together under a shared sense of purpose and vision, not by our beliefs about specific behaviors. The call to purpose pulls us together but does not require that we shed our uniqueness. Zion does not ask its people to forfeit their freedom as a condition of belonging. Being clear about our purpose and vision will enhance the nature of our relationships within the Restoration Movement. Without a clear definition of common purpose our meetings serve only to increase our separation from each other.

We cannot exist without each other. We cannot get to a future that is worth inhabiting following separate paths. We have erected boundaries around us that have shut people out. Our fragmentation and separateness keeps us from being able to meet the needs of those who are hurting.

It is time when every person should have a voice in what we do and all have an opportunity to make decisions that affect the whole body. It is time to call a general assembly.

20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?

21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?

22 Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me John 21:20-22

36 And John spake unto him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followed not us; and we forbade him, because he followed not us.

37 But Jesus said, Forbid him not; for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part. Mark 9:36-37

16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:16

20 And verily, I say unto you, that ye are they of whom I said, Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. 3 Nephi 7:20

24 And verily, verily, I say unto you, that I have other sheep, which are not of this land; neither of the land of Jerusalem; neither in any parts of that land round about, whither I have been to minister. 3 Nephi 7:24

Consuming

BITTER FRUIT



A fluffy, light-colored kitten is lying on its back on a wooden floor. The kitten's front paws are held up near its eyes, and its hind legs are also visible. The kitten has a pleading or desperate expression on its face. The image is overlaid with large, white, bold text with black outlines.

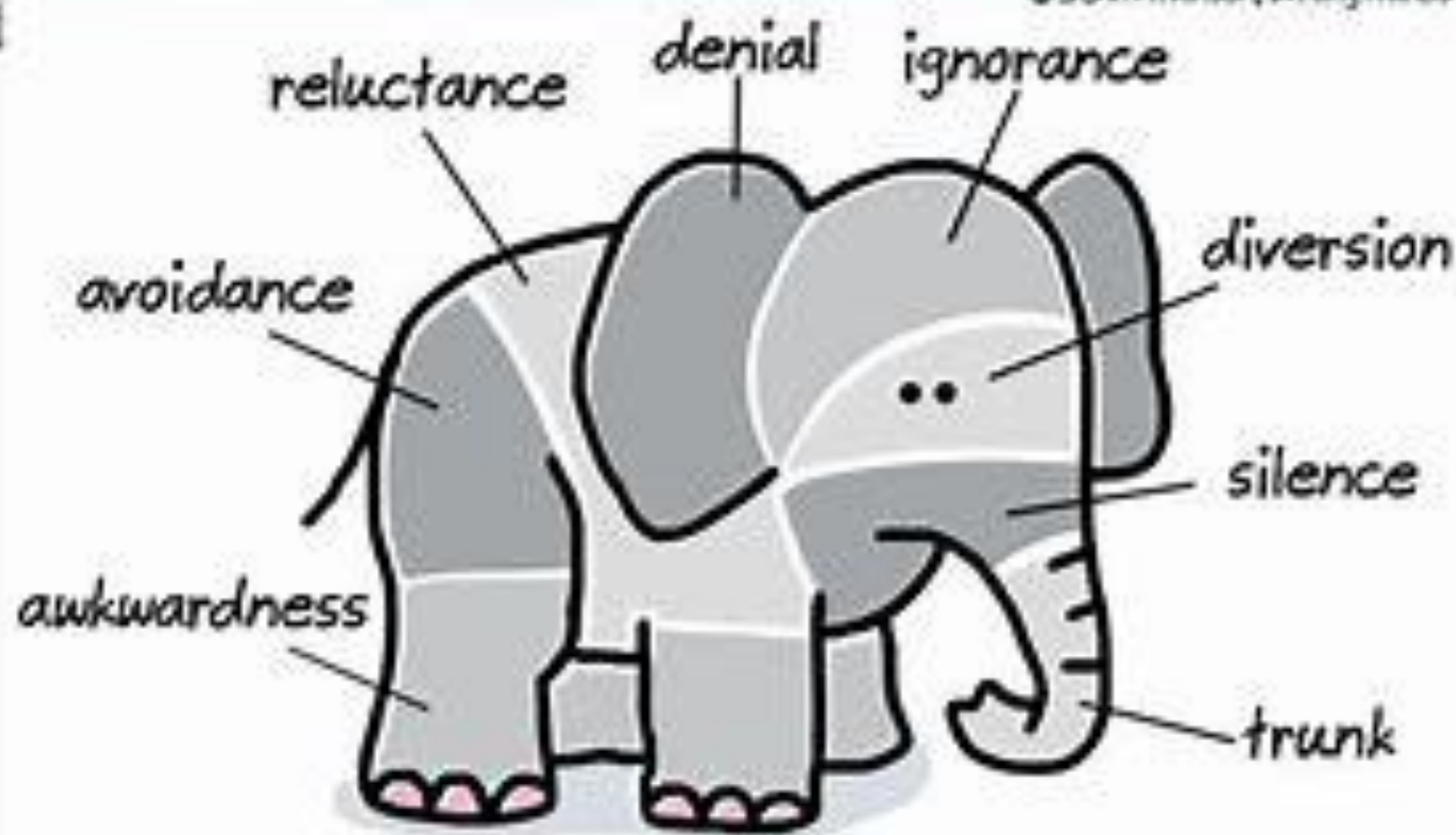
WAIT!

DON'T LEAAAWVEEE



PARTS OF THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

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Matthew 22:

32...And when the multitude heard him, they were astonished
at his **doctrine**.

34 Then one of them, a lawyer, tempting him, asked, saying,

35 Master, **which is the great commandment?**

36 Thou shalt **LOVE THE LORD THY GOD** with all thy heart,
and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

37 This is the first and great commandment.

38 And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt
LOVE THY NEIGHBOR as thyself.

On these

two commandments

hang all the law

and the prophets.

Source of

Good Fruit



But the fruit of the Spirit is

joy

peace

LOVE

temperance

gentleness

goodness

long-suffering

faith

meeekness

Galatians 5:22-23

“Wherefore, cleave unto charity, which is the greatest of all, for all things must fail; but

charity is the pure love of Christ,

and it endureth forever; and whoso is found possessed of it at the last day,

it shall be well with them.”

Consuming bitter
fruit makes us sick



adultery

lasciviousness

fornication

hatred

emulations

drunkenness

strife

seditions

wrath

heresies

VARIENCE

revellings

idolatry

murders

witchcraft

envyings

uncleanness

Galatians 5: 19-21

...they which do such things

shall not inherit

the kingdom of God

Another word for

Variance

is

CONTENTION

VARIENCE (noun)

“strife, discord, **contention**, conflict”



Sometimes active

But...

Mostly Passive



9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 2 John:9-10

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him Godspeed;

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law
1 John 3:4

7 Behold, this is the doctrine of Christ; and there will be no more doctrine given, until after he shall manifest himself unto you in the flesh. 2 Nephi 14:7

DOCTRINE

29 And there shall be no disputations among you, as there hath hitherto been; neither shall there be disputations among you concerning the points of my **doctrine**, as there hath hitherto been;

30 For verily, verily I say unto you, He that hath the spirit of contention, is not of me, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger one with another;

31 Behold, this is not my **doctrine**, to stir up the hearts of men with anger one against another; but this is my **doctrine**, that such things should be done away.

3 Nephi 5:29-31

DOCTRINE

³² Behold, verily, verily I say unto you, I will declare unto you my **doctrine**.

And this is my doctrine...

³⁴ **And whoso believeth in me, and is baptized, the same shall be saved...**

³⁵ **And whoso believeth not in me, and is not baptized, shall be damned**

³⁶ Verily, verily I say unto you, that **this is my doctrine;**

3 Nephi 5:32,34-36

“...Resolved further, That a connection with those factions during the dark and cloudy day, does not necessarily invalidate the priesthood holding as we do, that those factions could neither confer nor take away the priesthood.”

GCR 72, 1866 / General Conference Resolutions 1852-1923, p. 11

ONE JOB...

The Great Commission

The Everlasting Covenant

Question of Authority