
Joseph Smith, *The Words of Joseph Smith: The Contemporary Accounts of the Nauvoo Discourses of the Prophet Joseph*, compiled and edited by Andrew F. Ehat and Lyndon W. Cook [Provo: BYU Religious Studies Center, 1980], 207.)

21 May 1843 (Sunday Morning). Temple Stand. 1

204Joseph Smith Diary, by Willard Richards

20410 1/2—Joseph arrived and after pressing his way through the crowd and getting on the stand said there were some people who thought it a terrible thing that any body should exercise a little power. & said he thought it a pity that any body should give occasion to have power exercised. and requested the people to get out of their alleys, and if they did not keep them clear he might some time run up and down & might hit some of them. & called on Bro Morey 2 to constable to keep the alleys after singing Joseph read 1st chap 2d Epistle of Peter, Wm Law prayed. singing again.

204when I shall have the opportunity of speaking in a house I know not. I find my lungs failing——it has always been my fortune almost to speak in the open air to large assemblies.

204I have not an idea there has been a great many very good men since Adam There was one good man Jesus.—Many think a prophet must be a great deal better than any body else.—suppose I would condescend. yes I will call it condescend, to be a great deal better than any of you. I would be raised up to the highest heaven, and who should I have to accompany me. I love that man better who swears a stream as long as my arm, and administering to the poor & dividing his substance, than the long smoothed faced hypocrites

204I dont want you to think I am very righteous, for I am not very righteous. God judgeth men according to the light he gives them. 3

204we have a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto you do well to take heed. as unto a light that shineth in a dark place 4

204we were eyewitnesses of his majesty and heard the voice of his excellent glory 5——& what could be more sure? transfigured on the mount 6 &c what could be more sure? divines have been quarreling for ages about the meaning of this.

205rough stone rolling down hill. 7

2053 grand secrets lying in this chapter which no man can dig out. which unlocks the whole chapter. What is written are only hints of things which existed in the prophets mind. which are not written concerning eternal glory.

205I am going to take up this subject by virtue of the knowledge of God in me. which I have

received from heaven.

205the opinions of men, so far as I am ~~possessed~~ concerned, are to me as the crackling of the thorns under the pot, or the whistling of the wind.

205Columbus and the eggs. 8——Ladder and rainbow. 9 like precious faith with us——add to your faith virtue &c. another point after having all these qualifications he lays this injunction. but rather make your calling & election sure——after adding all this virtue knowledge &. make your calling & sure. 10——what is the secret. the starting point.——according as his divine power which hath given unto all things that pertain to life & godliness.

205how did he obtain all things? through the knowledge of him who hath called him.——there could not any be given pertaining to life ~~knowledge~~ & godliness without knowledge 11 wo wo wo to christendom.——the divine spirits; &c if this be true.

205salvation is for a man to be saved from all his enemies.——until a man can triumph over death. he is not saved. knowledge will do this.

205organization of Spirits in the eternal world.——spirits in the eternal world are like spirits in this world. when those spirits have come into this [and] risen & received glorified bodies. they will have an ascendancy over spirits who have no bodies. or kept not their first estate like the devil. Devils punishment, should not have a habitation like other men. Devils retaliation come into this world bind up mens bodies. & occupy himself. authorities come alone and eject him from a stolen habitation

205design of the great God in sending us into this world and organizing us to prepare us for the Eternal world.——I shall keep in my own bosom. we have no claim in our eternal comfort in relation to Eternal things unless our actions & contracts & all things tend to this end. 12——

205 - 206after all this make your calling and election sure. if this injunction would lay largely on those to whom it was spoken. how much more then to them of the 19. century.——

2061 Key Knowledge is the power of Salvation

2 Key Make his calling and Election Sure

3. it is one thing to be on the mount & hear the excellent voice &c &c. and another to hear the voice declare to you you have a part & lot in the kingdom.——

206 - 207Howard and Martha Coray Notebook

206 - 207A Sermon by the Prophet Joseph Smith. On Election.

Every man goes to his own place 2 Peter 1. Ch——Judas by transgression fell that he might go to his own place. 13 there is one glory of the sun another of the moon & another of the stars as one Star differetheth &c. so also is the resurrection of the dead. 14 Brethren I am not a very Pious

man. I do not wish to be a great deal better than any body else. If a Prophet was so much better that any body else was he would inherit a glory far beyond what any one else would inherit and behold he would be alone, for who would be his company in heaven. ~~for~~ If I should condesend to be so righteous as the brethren would wish me to be, lo I should be taken from your midst and be translated as was Elijah. 15 Righteousness is not that which men esteem holiness. That which the world call righteousness I have not any regard for. To be righteous is to be just and merciful. If a man fails in kindness justice and mercy he will be damed for many will say in that day Lord, have we not prophecie in thy name and in thy name done many wonderful works but he will say unto them ye workers of iniquity 16 &c we were **eye witnesses of his Majesty** 17 we have also a more sure word of Prophecy. 18 Now brethren who can explain this no man be [but] he that has obtained these things in the same way that Peter did. Yet it is so plain & so simple & easy to be understood that when I have shown you the interpretation thereof you will think you have always Known it yourselves—These are but hints at those things that were revealed to Peter, and verily brethren there are things in the bosom of the Father, that have been **hid** from **the foundation of** the world, 19 that are not Known neither can be except by direct Revelation The Apostle says, unto them who have obtained like precious faith with us the apostles through the righteousness of God & our Savior Jesus Christ, through the **knowledge** of him that has called us to glory & virtue add faith virtue &c. &c. to godliness brotherly kindness—Charity—ye shall neither be barren or unfruitful in the **Knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ. He that lacketh these things is blind 20—wherefore the **rather brethren** after all this **give** diligence to make your calling & Election Sure Knowledge is necessary to life and Godliness. 21 wo unto you priests & divines, who preach that knowledge is not necessary unto life & Salvation. Take away Apostles &c. take away knowledge and you will find yourselves worthy of the damnation of hell. **Knowledge is Revelation hear all ye brethren, this grand Key;** Knowledge is the power of God unto Salvation.

207What is salvation. Salvation is for a man to be Saved from all his enemies even our last enemy which is death ~~and~~ for David Saith, "and the Lord Said unto my Lord 'Sit thou on my right hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool.[']" 22

207The design of God before **the foundation of** the world was that we should take tabernacles that through faithfulness we should overcome & thereby obtain a resrection from the dead, in this wise obtain glory honor power and dominion for this thing is needful, inasmuch as the Spirits in the Eternal world, glory in bringing other Spirits in Subjection unto them, Striving continually for the mastery, He who rules in the heavens when he has a certain work to do calls the Spirits before him to organize them. they present themselves and offer their Services—

207When Lucifer was hurled from Heaven the decree was that he Should not obtain a tabernacle not those that were with him, but go abroad upon the earth exposed to the anger of the elements naked & bare, but oftimes he lays hold upon men binds up their Spirits enters their habitations laughs at the decree of God and rejoices in that he hath a house to dwell in, by & by he is expelled by Authority and goes abroad mourning naked upon the earth like a man without a house exposed to the tempest & the storm—

207There are some things in my own bosom that must remain there. 23 If Paul could say I Knew a man who ascended to the third heaven & saw things unlawful for man to utter, **I more.** There

are only certain things that can be done by the Spirits and that which is done by us that is not done with a view to eternity is not binding in eternity. 24 Oh Peter if they who were of like precious faith with thee were enjoined to make their Calling & Election sure, how much more all we There are two Keys, one key knowledge. the other make you Calling & election sure, for if you do these things you shall **never fall** for so an entrance shall be administered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. 25 We made known unto you the power & coming of our Lord & S. J. Christ were Eye witnesses of his Majesty when he received from God the Father honor & glory when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. this voice which came from heaven we heard when we were with him in the holy Mount. **We have also a more sure word of prophecy** whereunto give heed until the day Star arise in your hearts 26 **this is It is one thing to** receive knowledge by the voice of God, (this is my beloved Son &c.) & another to Know that you yourself will be saved, to have a positive promise of your own Salvation is making your Calling and Election sure. viz the voice of Jesus saying my beloved thou shalt have eternal life. 27 Brethren never cease struggling until you get this evidence. & Take heed both before and after obtaining the more sure word of Prophecy. 28

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239 - 240 Howard and Martha Coray Notebook

239 - 240 Sermon 3thd.

on the death of Judge Higbee.

There is a thought more dreadful than that of total annihilation That ~~thought~~ is the an ~~assurance~~ thought that we shall never again meet with those we loved here on earth 10 Suppose I had ~~died—believing that when having~~ some Idea of a resurrection and glory beyond the grave which God and angels had secured and yet had not any knowledge intelligence of any Law or any order by which it is to obtained. Well you lose a friend you come up in the resurrection hoping to [meet] him again but find yourself separated from them to all eternity and become aware of the fact that through ignorance of the principles of the resurrection and reunion you will never behold that dear friend nor ever enjoy his society this thought I say of being disappointed in meeting my friend in the resurrection is to me more dreadful than of ceasing to suffer by a cessation of being

240 ~~Were I~~ could I tell the fact as it is all that heard me would go home and never say one word more about God or Christ or religion until they had received that assurance from Heaven which would set their souls at rest by placing all beyond a doubt. 11

240What consolation have we what power what reason to expect one thing more than another in eternity

240Hebrews 12 ch 22 & 22 v You You have come to an innumerable company of angels to the general assembly and church of the first born And for have were they brought thus far—I answer you that they came to these personages to learn of the things of God and to hear revealed through them the order and glory of the kingdoms of God.

240I would ask again Is there a word on record that was revealed by those angels and spirits 12 if there is where is it to be found found

240Again I enquire what is the order and organization of the Spirits of the just made perfect Let me tell you brethren That which is to be revealed which was kept his from the foundation of the world will be revealed to sucklings and babes 13

240Malachi 4th ch Behold the day cometh that shall burn as an oven and all the proud and they that do wickedly shall be as stubble and they 14 that cometh shall burn them up But although in the beginning God created the Earth standing in the water and out of the water still in the End it shall be burned and few men left 15—but before that God shall send unto them Elijah the prophet and he shall reveal unto them the covenants of the fathers wi with relation to the children and the covenants of the children in relation to the Fathers that they may have the priviledge of entering into the same in order to effect their mutual salvation 16 And I saw another angel ascending from the east having the Seal of the living God and he cried &c. sayin Hurt not the Earth nor sea nor trees till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. 17—

241Now I would ask who know the seal of the living God Behold the ignorance of the World.

241A measure of this sealing is to confirm upon their head in common with Elijah the doctrine of election or the covenant with Abraham 18—which which when a Father & mother of a family have entered into their children who have not transgressed are secured by the seal wherewith the Parents have been sealed. 19 And this is the Oath of God unto our Father Abraham and this doctrine shall stand forever.

241Mourners: I exhort you to do as your Father and husband would direct—be sealed by the by the servants of God. 20 Eternal life is to know the only true God and his son Jesus without which there is no salvation. 21