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## Creation in Travail by Elbert A Smith

Compiled by Pat Chadwick

This was written by Elbert A Smith at the end of World War 1. This is extracted from an address delivered at the Stone Church, November 1917 and put into the book, *Square Blocks*. I have decided to insert it here in the midst of flash cards by F Henry because I believe it is pertinent to many of the things we see happening now.

Bro. Elbert starts with: I wish to transpose two passages that appear in the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans. *For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now...For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God (Romans 8:19, 22).*

The jubilee that we had last Monday (the war ending) has not restored the broken homes that this war is responsible for. There is mourning and pain and travail all over the world...This is but the closing of one chapter in the story. Section 45 of the Book of Covenants yet remains to be fulfilled. I refer to the statement that the times will come when “...*that every man that will not take his sword against his neighbor, must needs flee unto Zion for safety. And there shall be gathered unto it out of every nation under heaven; and it shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another (DC 45:13a-b).*”

I do not believe that refers to any war that has occurred, or to an international war that will occur. To my mind, it refers to a condition of anarchy, when order and government will break down in our own country, and neighbors be arrayed against neighbors, and we must flee to Zion if we wish to have safety.

There is a significant statement in *Section 45:4a And in that day shall be heard of wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth shall be in commotion, and men's hearts shall fail them, and they say Christ delayeth his coming until the end of the earth.* On the other hand, there are a great many who are looking and waiting in faith and expectation. As the Master said, *When ye see these things begin to come to pass, then look up and lift up your heads, for the day of your redemption draweth nigh (Luke 21:27).*



## ***The Window is Open – Part 1*** by Richard Neill

Compiled by Pat Chadwick

Because of the great importance of this current message, presented in the recent *Tidings of Zion*, we are sending out an extra flash card this month to call your attention to the Solemn Assembly taking place in September 2020. This is a call to revival in the church. This is a call to rise up and become the people God has called us to be and to bring forth God's Kingdom on the earth, even Zion!!! *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain; let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand...Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly (Joel 2:1-15).*

Richard Neill: Following the Elders Conference in the summer of 2019, the Lord spoke these words to me: “My people have become my Living Church. In my 47 years of ministry, I have been made aware of the “windows of heaven” being opened and the “windows of heaven” being shut. A few years ago, the “window” was opened in the Restoration. As the Lord made this known, I also became aware that because of our weakness and failure to respond obediently, the “window” became closed for a time. In my sadness, I made a commitment to the Lord. I said to him, “Lord, if you ever tell me again that the windows of heaven are open, I commit to you I will be all-in.” After pondering the message, the Lord spoke further and said, “The window is open.”

In Malachi 3:10 there is the classic reference to the “windows of heaven” becoming open...talking about tithes, but it has a broader application of what happens to a people when they are obedient. What are the promises that the Lord makes of the window being opened if we are obedient? (\*For the list refer to mailing side of card.) In order to claim a blessing, the people must be humble and full of love, diligent, and obedient to God. When the people see and know the window is open, they must be ready and prepared to carry out the Lord's commands.

Are You ready to claim the blessing? Let us move out quickly to prepare ourselves for this great event, this upcoming Solemn Assembly.



## Zion Flash Card - *THE PRICE of ZION*

Written by Audentia Anderson - Saints Herald March 20, 1948, Part 1

“My life has been marked with few outstanding experiences that could be termed supernatural. Two were connected with the work of the women’s department. From them I caught a vision of the importance of women in the effort to establish Zion. I lay awake, contemplating the work of the department, my mind was penetrated by such a clear understanding of its possibilities that I was thrilled from head to foot for half an hour. I was bathed in that marvelous spirit, while vision after vision of the various avenues of service were unfolded before me, I saw the training of children must begin in babyhood...Young mothers educated...not only for motherhood as pertains to the physical care of children but also in their spiritual development...I saw how to become good mothers...I saw courses of study for parents, adolescents, and younger girls. I saw how much depended on good health, which meant studies in nutrition, home economics, intelligent homemaking and the careful use of income. The avenues of work waiting to be done by our women seemed endless.” Following this experience Audentia was asked to lead the women of the church by Fred M. Smith. She states that during her time in this office, “Women all over the church were aroused to the dignity of their position and its relationship to the cause of Zion.”





## Zion Flash Card - The Price of Zion

Audentia Anderson's Article - Part 2

**The price of Zion is not trivial. It is no easy matter to overcome the weakness of our own nature nor is it a light thing to divest ourselves of self-interest and to truly walk in the steps of the Savior.** We get so concerned with material things, with comfort of body and mind, that we do not go out to find the ones who need us and the help we could offer. We fail to drive out the unlovely spirits of envy, pride, or faultfinding. We forget to recount often enough the "fruits of the spirit" as enumerated by one of old...**It is going to take the aroused and active interest of every church member in every Latter Day Saint home to purify his or her own little corner of the kingdom, beginning at the innermost core.** Can we go through a rigid questionnaire of our own selves, our own secret desire, our pet faults, and frailties, our grievances, and bitterness? Can we search, with utter honesty, and find that our hearts are filled only with love and it's attributes – quick forgiveness, tender benevolences?.... **...What price Zion? Indeed a desirable thing is worth the price it costs; and if, in our self-examination, we find we have evaluated Zion too cheaply, let us shake ourselves awake...the women of the church can through humility, study, and faithful effort, be given a vision of their part in the plan of God for the saving of His people in the Latter Days.**

## Zion Flash Card - Vision of Preparing for Christ Coming

Audentia Anderson Article – Part 3

I was lying in bed one night. Suddenly while still awake, or so it seemed, I found myself seated with a group of other women in a close semi-circle. All of us were busy working on a garment that was spread over our laps. We were happy as we worked, but we seemed imbued with a spirit of haste. All at once, we were no longer seated, but working hurriedly at the heavy embroidery with which we were embellishing the beautiful white satin robe. Now, however, instead of resting upon our laps, the garment was upon the shoulders of a man. My gaze traveled upward to see who the wearer was, and I saw it was my brother Fred M!

With that discovery a wave of spiritual light swept over me. I sensed clearly he represented the body of the church on the earth and that the pure white garment upon his shoulders was the robe of righteousness the church should wear before it would be worthy to receive the coming Christ. **I saw clearly, too, that it was the women who were putting the finishing touches to the transcendently lovely garment and I thrilled to the realization that the reason for our haste was that the cry had gone forth, "Behold! The bridegroom cometh!"**

Then Audentia quoted, "For Zion must increase in beauty and holiness; for her borders must be enlarged; her stakes must be strengthened; yea, verily I say unto you, Zion must arise and put on her beautiful garments! And Zion cannot be built up unless it is by the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom."

## **Part #1 All of This with Zion in View Series**

A Home Column feature for women of the church;  
by Mrs. Pauline Arnson with quotes from Frederick M. Smith  
Saints' Herald, Vol. 95 #46

Mrs. Arnson, in her home column, stated: "Women have a specific part in the task of accomplishing the remaining goal of building Zion. To build Zion homes, women must have a deep conviction of the truthfulness of the gospel and a secure spiritual foundation. Then, this allegiance to Christ and His way can be transferred to the members of the family. We have learned that this sure foundation is established in our lives by prayer, faith, work, study, and personal experiences with the Master."

Fred M. said, "**The women of the church must bear large responsibilities in the development of the church. ...The home becomes of prime importance as around it must center the social and**

**religious activity....If Zion is to be an accomplished fact.....we must improve conditions prevailing in our homes.....the social and religious condition of the home...should be a high standard, all of this with Zion in View.**" We believe that our church was divinely instituted, established in the Latter Days so that the gospel of Christ could produce a righteous people. When this condition is achieved we will be able to establish Zion. **Let us keep before us always that the great goal of the church is to develop a righteous people who have become so, because they have patterned their lives after Christ and have developed Christ-like qualities.**

## **Part # 2 All of This with Zion in View**

Article written by Pauline Arnson

With quotes from Frederick M. Smith

Saints' Herald, Vol. 95, #46

A program of **Home Improvement** was included in Fred M. Smith's address on goals and objectives of the church to the conference of 1942.



Fred M. Smith: "If Zion is eventually to be an accomplished fact in bringing about better social, religious and industrial conditions, we must improve conditions prevailing in our homes. ...

The home is entitled to religious heritage; the child has a right to it. Parents living the life of the gospel is necessary. The power of example is the great teacher. Children should have a daily example of what it means to belong to the church. Children are taught everything they know. They learn by observation. Their social viewpoint is acquired, not inherited . Our duty is to direct and advise. We should say to them, 'This is the best church with the highest objective.' It is our duty to help our children follow the right course. ....In Zion any woman who fails to impress on her children the ideals of Zion is still far short of her duty. ...The greatness of the task is matched by the idealism of the purpose. To preach the gospel does not complete our task. There is an additional responsibility of preparing a place from out of which the beauty of perfection and the glory of God shall shine: Zion must become a reality. Out of the nations shall be gathered the elements to comprise Zion from which the effulgent glory of God shall radiate."

### **Part #3 All of This with Zion in View**

by Mrs. Pauline Arnsen with quotes from Frederick M. Smith  
Saints' Herald, Vol. 95 #46

In 1943 President F.M. Smith was asked what the goal of this newly organized women's department would be, he answered, **"Why, the development of the Zion home, of course. ... The Zion Home is a home where mutual love, understanding, peace and sympathy abound, where there is regular worship of God, where religion is taught to the members of the family and where loyalty to Christ and a desire to have a part in his work is uppermost in the minds of its members. It is also a physical house which is clean, neat and harmonious ... where hospitality and friendliness abounds. Both sides are necessary to make a perfect home ... a Zion Home."**



Through the years the women's department has used the instructions given by Fred M. as a guide. **It has been first concerned with the spiritual development of the women, knowing that this was essential before any great goals could be accomplished. In addition to the strengthening of our spiritual foundations which come from the**

**study of the word of God, we must learn together in our women's groups the necessary steps of Zion home-building, ... The women are charged with the development of the Zion home. We must not fail, remembering always to do all things with an eye single to the glory of God. Women's organizations in the branch...have the responsibility of carrying a part of the mission of the church. Our aim is to increase in stature after the likeness of Christ so that we shall receive his power and guidance. We should be anxious that those who come within our circle of contact shall learn his ways and be persuaded to link their energies with ours to accomplish these great tasks on earth. Women can't be satisfied that their own families are growing; they must be concerned that others around are growing, too, and the women's department is an avenue...to help in this development.**

**One of our responsibilities is to find place in the church program where every woman can use her talents. The women's department can help to develop leaders for all phases of church activity. Few of us recognize our potential powers but if stimulated by prayer, study and consecration, many would be making preparation for the time when they would be needed.** (Continued on back...)

(continued from front...)

**Fred M. said, “When it was declared, ‘And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations,’ a task was set for the church, and on each member is imposed the responsibility of participation in the work of raising before the people of the earth, an ensign, which shall be to them a testimony and witness.”**

**All of this with Zion in View.**

## **A Portion of a Message Given at Central Missouri Restoration Branch Reunion, 2013 – Part 1**

By Elder Rob Bird

Practice my kingdom in your homes each day until each home will be a beacon of light in your neighborhood. Exercise celestial principles and laws in your branches so My Spirit will be poured out in greater power than you have before witnessed or imagined.

You have not understood or have underestimated the power of My Holy Spirit. It is sufficient to guide you and strengthen each of my sons and daughters through the trial and tribulations which lie ahead of you in these latter days.

How oft I would have gathered you as a hen gathers her little ones before a storm for their safety

and benefit, but previous warnings and counsels have gone unheeded or been forgotten quickly.

My love for each of you remains undiminished and always will be, however, the hour for your most effective work is waning and will soon be passed on to a more obedient and committed people. Important choices lie before you this day and in the days ahead – choices that have eternal consequences.

*“It is yet day when all can work. The night will come when for many of my people opportunity to assist will have passed.”*

*D&C 142:5b*

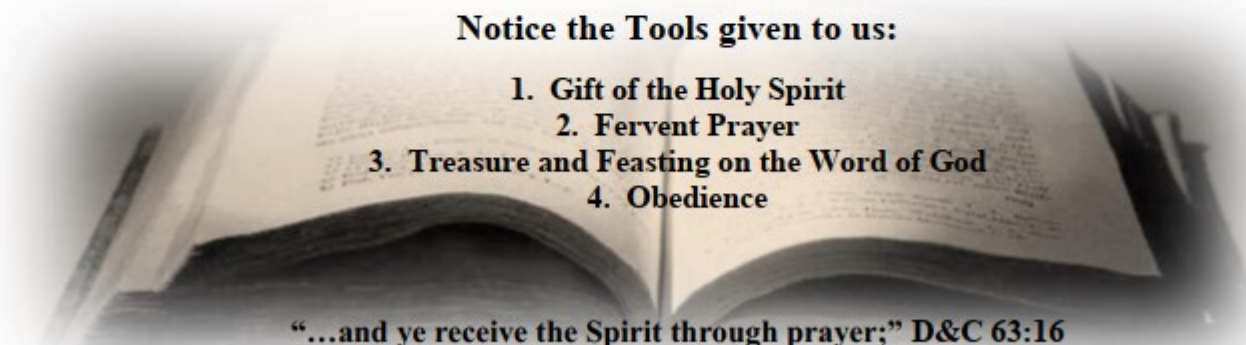
## Message Given at CMRB Reunion 2013 - Card #2

By Elder Rob Bird

Important choices lie before you this day and in the days ahead –choices that have eternal consequences. Use the tools I've provided for each of My covenant people, so you won't be as one of the five virgins left out of the wedding feast because of the lack of obedience and preparation. Don't ever under-estimate the value of the gift of My Holy Spirit or the power of a fervent prayer or fail to treasure up and feast upon the promises found in My Word or the strength found in obedience to my two greatest commandments.

God's desire is that each of us would choose wisely, this day, so that we will continue even to a greater degree to be a part of this great work in these last days of the latter days. God's Zion awaits a people in this dispensation to become One and keep His commandments as this will "cause" God to keep His everlasting covenant. (Read Genesis 9:21-23.)

Notice the Tools given to us:

- 
1. Gift of the Holy Spirit
  2. Fervent Prayer
  3. Treasure and Feasting on the Word of God
  4. Obedience

“...and ye receive the Spirit through prayer;” D&C 63:16

“Pray always and I will pour out my Spirit upon you, and great shall be your blessing...” D&C 18:6a

A background image showing several hands of different skin tones joined together in a circle, symbolizing unity and community. The hands are positioned around the text, with some at the top, some at the bottom, and some on the sides, creating a sense of being part of a larger group.

## THE PRESIDING BISHOPRIC ON ZION

**Saint's Herald, Vol. 67 #7; 1920**

The task of the church is a Herculean task, and only the consecrated hearts and willing hands can achieve it. In the midst of the clamoring for short hours and long pay; for many luxuries and little production; for maximum returns and minimum output, in the midst of such a world we must rally our forces, and build Zion.

We must build Zion, and Zion means a community where every man puts to with all his might, and where the common ideal is service and not gain. We must organize a people that can demonstrate the principles of Christ so visibly that their light may be as a light set upon a hill and the solution of the social and economic problems that beset the entire world may be sought by men everywhere as the remedy of untoward conditions. Zion must translate all our high ideals into practical reality.

And Zion must be built by human hands and human skills. God can inspire, God can protect, but the task itself is ours. Wherever you are, your heart is set on Zion and you will have a part in her building.

Will you join hands with your brethren in this mighty task? Will you produce and will you save that there may be wherewith in the Lord's storehouse to accomplish his work?

## **Hubert Case's Christmas Vision**

### **Taken from "The Red Man's Hope P.226-227"**

In December 1947 Hubert Case had a Vision of the development of Zion. What a wonderful, meaningful vision to have during the Christmas Season. The angel message given to the shepherd's on the night of Christ's birth, so long ago was reaffirmed in Hubert's vision. The message of hope, of peace on earth, goodwill to men still goes forth to us today.

Hubert Case wrote: "I had a vision December 7, 1947 in which I was engaged with others in making a level plain of a very fertile, beautiful land, on which the pure in heart should live and prosper in righteousness as did the ancient Nephites on this goodly land.

**"I saw these plains of peace on earth and good will towards men beginning to take form and find place in work and deed; for their hearts were attuned to God's love"... "I was shown love conquers hate, selfishness and kindred evils. I saw that we should pray more for love to abound, that all our Zion program will go forward under the endowment of God's power to bring it to pass.**

**I saw the implements we were using to make smooth the rough places and remove every obstacle ahead of us for Zion and the plains of peace. Our powers and God given talents are to overcome evil with good. Those implements include loving kindness, prayers, and living the high points of the law of the Lord, 'of peace on earth good will to men.'**

**Our lives preach the greatest sermons and should be guarded at all times"**

## **Gathering to Zion**

by Edie Cutshall

Standing in my kitchen, looking out our south window, I had an open vision. I saw many small white tents positioned uniformly over our property which borders the church's property. There was a long line of men and women--dressed in plain gray clothing, long coats, and capes and hats--stretching from the church basement door back about 400 feet. I did not know why they were in line, but in my mind I thought perhaps they were waiting for food.

This vision was given to me many years ago. Since that time I have heard of about five other people who had visions or dreams of white tents on their property. I believe this vision testified of Zion and the gathering. It has strengthened my faith and given me great hope for the days ahead which are spoken of in the scriptures.

## **The Gathering Will Take Place**

By Pat Chadwick

My middle daughter Sandy had an experience about 12 years ago. In this experience she saw a great

number of women and children on an interstate; she believed to be I-70, they were walking, carrying what they could and in a refuge/fleeing type of condition. She saw no men, just women and children. It was made known to her that they were coming here to this area, "The Center Place/Zion" and that her father and I would be instrumental in helping to care for many of these children.

My husband Hal has also had a similar experience, being shown that our home will one day be packed with people fleeing to this area. For that reason we built a much larger home than we needed for just the two of us. When I think about these experiences I am reminded of Richard Neill's message from the Lord that he shared during the 2012 POZ Summer Series, which said in part, "To My People, Prepare the Center Place for the receiving of the nations." I believe this message to be true and we need to be preparing both spiritually and physically for that which is to come.

*D&C 45:14 "And it shall come to pass that the righteous shall be gathered out from among all nations, and shall come to Zion singing, with songs of everlasting joy."*

## God Will Hasten the City

By Pat Chadwick

In the summer of 2011 Judy Smith, Sylvia Powell and I traveled to Kenya to bring ministry to our church women over there. At the Paris airport we ran into trouble. We stood for almost 2 hours in a line to get through security and then were thrown out at the last check point because we did not have boarding cards for the flight into Kenya. By this time we were literally out of time. To go back through the line to get boarding cards and then back through the security line would have taken several more hours. Our plane was leaving in 30 minutes. While standing in the security line earlier I had noticed a tall French man escorting people to the front of the security line.

I happened to look up and see this man walking behind Sylvia. I said, "Sylvia run and catch that man, he can help us." He asked what our problem was and when Sylvia told him our dilemma, much to our relief he said, "I can help you, follow me." He took us back to baggage check in and we quickly had our boarding cards. What a relief! Then he took us back to security check out, at the front of the line. In 10 minutes time our "impossible problem" had been solved. We would have never made it to Kenya in time without this

wonderful ambassador's help. I know God put him right there in that spot at that moment to help us.

Upon returning home I shared this testimony at Wednesday night prayer service. When I sat down the spirit swept over me and my mind was flooded with these words:

*"See how quickly I put you through to the plane, when you thought to Kenya in time for the women's retreat was hopeless. Don't you know that I can move quickly to accomplish my purposes and nothing can hinder my work?"*

*"This was a parable to you on the redemption of Zion. You thought getting to Kenya was hopeless. Many people now believe the building of Zion is hopeless and have given up hope. But have hope for when I set my hand to bring my Zion about it will happen very quickly; even as you moved quickly through the lines at the airport, I will move quickly to bring about my Zion. Be prepared, for the time is short."*

Ladies we must not be discouraged about the redemption of Zion. We must lift up our heads and rejoice. We must prepare and seek to perfect ourselves so we can be a part of God's wonderful Kingdom.

**Zion the Beautiful Beckons Us On!**



An excerpt from Pat Chadwick's Prophecy Class



Many people have given up on the concept that we live in the Last Days. They have given up on the Second Coming of Christ because they do not understand the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Principle or the long suffering of God.

**GOD'S LONG SUFFERING CAN BE FOUND IN A PRINCIPLE CALLED: The 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Principle**

According to the bible "Generations" are measured in two ways: One is by years, which is 40-50 years. The other is measured in lineage. 4 Generations in lineage = Grandfather, Father, Son, Grandson. Both ways figure out to 150-200 year.

**Examples of the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Principle found in the scriptures are**

1. Noah's day = First Generation is Enoch, second Generation is Methuselah, third Generation is Lamech and Noah is the fourth Generation
2. Jaredite Civilization when God started warning them = First Generation is Ahah, Second Generation is Ethan, third Generation is Moron and Coriantumer is the fourth Generation
3. Nephites at 200ad started their decline = and by 400 A.D were destroyed. Given the 200 years to repent in but would not repent.
4. In our day God has warned us through the prophet Joseph Smith = to repent or destruction would come. In Sec. 1 we are told it is the last days and many things to yet expect.

We see in the above scriptures that the 4<sup>th</sup> generation principle is acted out over and over again. So don't think that Christ's Second Coming is delayed or is never going to happen. Everything is taking place right on time and just as God has said. The church was organized in 1830. It has been 184 years & 4 generations since these prophecies declaring it is "The Last Days" were given. God has not forgotten His Promises. Christ will soon return and He called us to prepare

**II Peter 3:9 tells us that "the Lord is not slack concerning his promises, long suffering towards us not willing that any should perish"**

# The Meaning of Zion in Our Time- Card 1

By Clifford Cole

*For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie;  
though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry (Habakkuk 2:3).*

We need first of all to recognize that God purposes to reveal himself in the world. It is the purpose of God “to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man.” Whatever God has done and whatever he calls us to do, should be seen against this background ... where does Zion fit in? We have always said the church has a two-fold mission. The first of these is the missionary objective. It is the job of the church to bring people into faith in God. The second objective is the building of Zion.



The church makes it possible to come together in the organism of the living body of Christ in such a way that those gifts which we have and those resources which are ours, may be so clear that Zion is to do in us and others that which brings about our immortality and eternal life.

**God has given us the supreme privilege of being joined with Him in working toward the achievement of that end, then, of course, that which we do is of eternal value,** and therefore it becomes a part of those things which shall endure because God is omnipotent and he is able to keep that which is His. The end value, however is to create in us those qualities of life which are able to endure His presence.

# The Meaning of Zion in Our Time- Card 2

By Apostle Clifford Cole

*Say not ye there are yet four months, then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he who reapeth, receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal; that both he who soweth, and he who reapeth, may rejoice together. (John 4:37-38)*



The most important element of Zion is what happens to the people who work for the end goal. Strangely enough, when one lives by faith it makes little difference whether he lives in the beginning or at some other stage of the development of Zion ... the laborers hired to serve in the vineyard, who served in each different hour of the day, all received the same wage. The joy which is offered to you and me is also the same if, in our time, we are given the opportunity to use that which God has given to us for the achieving that purpose for which God has called the universe into being. When we do this it probably matters little whether we serve in the first hour or near the last hour.

The scripture speaks of those who saw the city afar off but enjoyed the pleasures of that city through faith. There is a sense in which the church is not only those of us who are here, but the church is made up of those who have in the centuries past lived for this cause, and who are joined with us in it. Those who in the future may yet live for this cause will be joined with us. We need to see ourselves a part of that broad movement of God through the centuries. God has not reserved the joys of Zion to those who come at the end for the same joys are available to the laborers in each generation.

# The Meaning of Zion in Our Time- Card 3

By Apostle Clifford Cole

*...therefore hold up your light that it may shine unto the world. Behold I am the light which ye shall hold up. (3 Nephi 8:54-55)*

We need to see ourselves a part of that broad movement of God through the centuries. God has not reserved the joys of Zion to those who come at the end, for the same joys are available to the laborers in each generation.

Now having said these things about Zion, **it is important in our day that we address ourselves at this particular period of history to doing those things which God has called us to do.** When men and women are called into the faith and see themselves as committed servants of God then they must use all they have as a way of expressing their love of God. They see themselves as having the supreme opportunity to use all God has given them to bring about His purposes.

The members of the church ought to and are called to become a part of the communities in which they live so that rather than being isolated from the world...**they see themselves as entering the world as disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. They touch the lives of those in the community in such a way that...they are like the salt or like the leaven in the world.**

The church is called not to save itself but to save the world. It must be in the world in such a way that its influence will bring the world to God. **The kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our God and His Christ. Now the day for the movement of Zion is here.**



# The Kingdom of Heaven – Part 1

By R. E. Davey - From the Book: Kingdom of Heaven is Like – 1954

*After reading the below remarks, we must ask ourselves if we have given the gospel the proper place in our lives and if not, why not. God's work awaits us.*

The kingdom was emphasized very early in Christ's ministry. John the Baptist prepared the way, "In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 3:28. With the same emphasis Christ introduced his ministry, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" Matthew 4:16. As a model for the prayers of his disciples, Christ placed emphasis on the coming kingdom that was to make possible the will of God prevailing "on earth as in heaven."

**In the very beginning of the restoration movement, the building of the kingdom was again placed as the keystone of the arch, the things about which Christ's followers were to be primarily concerned.** The kingdom of God on earth was identified by the word "Zion." Shortly before the church became an organized fact, **God said repeatedly, "Keep my commandments and seek to bring forth and establish Zion."** See Doctrine and Covenants 6, 10, 11 and 12. **Those who are converted and give the gospel its proper place in their lives shall be transformed into the kind and quality of people whom God can use in the building of His Kingdom.**

Latter-day revelation adds detail to this meaning: "But firstly, let my army become very great, and let it be sanctified before me, that it may become fair as the sun, and clear as the moon, and that her banners may be terrible unto all nations; that the kingdoms of this world may be constrained to acknowledge that the kingdom of Zion is in very deed the kingdom of our God and his Christ;" D&C 102:9a-b

## The Kingdom of Heaven – Part 2

By R. E. Davey - From the Book: Kingdom of Heaven is Like – 1954

*Like Alma, Brother Davey reminds us that we need to become a changed people. Individually, we must ask the question: "Have I experienced a mighty change in my heart?"*

Christ, when addressing his disciples, said, "Therefore seek ye to bring forth the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" Luke 12:34-35.

**The immediate purpose of the church and gospel was to so change the lives of people – their attitudes, motives, desires and ideals – that they would be brought into proper relationships spiritually, socially and economically and so produce a new society, a godly society. The kingdom of God, making possible the will of God in all things, would be created on earth as it now is in heaven.**

His kingdom "Zion" was not to develop out of human or worldly approach, but from a divine one. This is illustrated by Apostle Paul's statement to the Roman saints: "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."

**This kingdom of God "which is yet to come" is undoubtedly a concrete, definite reality – an actual society composed of human beings who have become transformed from ordinary men of the Earth into the sons of God by the transforming power of the gospel. Such a society can be built only by people who have experienced the "washing of regeneration", by people who have obeyed from the heart...The prime task of the church is to "seek to bring forth the kingdom of God" by changing people.**

## The Kingdom of Heaven – Part 3

By R. E. Davey - From the Book: Kingdom of Heaven is Like – 1954

*The question must be asked after reading the below remarks from R.E Davey: Will I be among the good gathered into vessels? Are you prepared to be a part of Zion and shine forth as the sun? Time is short we must be about our Father's work.*

Christ once spoke of the Kingdom of God as a net that gathered of every kind with the bad cast away, but the good “gathered” in vessels. Just before this he said that all those in the kingdom who did wickedly or offended were to be plucked out and the good gathered in. “Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun, in the Kingdom of their Father.” This referred to the kingdom that was to be, it’s purpose as a witness and ensign that people could see.

The gathering of the elect was designated to be “one place upon the face of the land.” For only by so doing could there be a concentration of the right kind of people in one unit so as to build this new society. **In this tremendous ideal of “Zion” is found the real and only genuine answer to the needs of the world. No wonder Christ emphasized, “Seek ye first to build up the Kingdom of God.” And taught us to pray, “Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.” No wonder the restored gospel put “Zion”, the building of the Kingdom of God on earth, in such a place of pre-eminence.**

What is the Kingdom? It is a Christian social order wherein the teachings of Christ find concrete expression in practical social living--the realization of the dream of the ages. **The word of God says it shall be. How marvelous is our opportunity to become labors together with God in the building of his Kingdom!**



# THE KINGDOM OF GOD – CARD 1

By F. Henry Edwards; Missionary Sermon Studies, p. 347

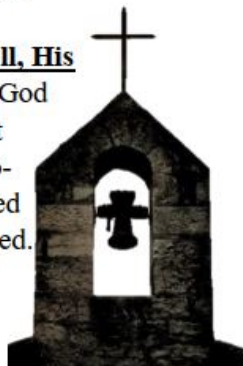
*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33).*

Jesus taught his disciples to pray, “*thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*” Even death could not stop this proclamation, for forty days after the resurrection were spent speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. (Acts 1:3) No other doctrine gathers up and binds together and at the same time makes clear all the teachings of the Master as does the **doctrine of the Kingdom.**

Jesus and his disciples sometimes talked as if the church and kingdom are identical. But they also thought and taught of the kingdom as higher and as future, as the great fellowship of the saints which the church was to bring into being. Both uses of the term are correct, for the kingdom is growing. In every age, the true church is the prophecy of the kingdom, and the kingdom is the soul of the church.

The great tragedy in the history of Christianity occurred when the ancient church lost her love for the kingdom. **The church does not exist for herself. She is the voice crying in the wilderness. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for the coming of Jesus, so must the church prepare the way for the coming of the kingdom.**

**The Kingdom of God is, first of all, His Kingdom.** It is the realm in which God has dominion. This kingdom is not yet fully established, but it is in process of establishment. It is advanced wherever the will of God is advanced. It is firmly planted wherever men learn the will of God and make it the law of their lives.



## THE KINGDOM OF GOD – CARD 2

By F. Henry Edwards; Missionary Sermon Studies, p. 347



**The Kingdom has its Proper Officers:** As in any other kingdom the officials are appointed by the authority of the king and with the approval of those who are loyal to him. **1 Corinthians 12:28** *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers.* **Matthew 16:20** *And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven.*

**The Officials of the Kingdom Need to be In Touch with the King:** **2 Corinthians 5:20-21** *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.* See also James 1:5 and John 14:15-17 and John 16:13.

**Citizenship in the Kingdom is Available to All Who Will Comply with the Requirements of Adoption:** Naturally they must have confidence in and loyalty towards the king, which we call faith in God. They must renounce allegiance to all other kingdoms, which we call repentance. They must actually be initiated into kingdom citizenship. **John 3:3-5** *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water, and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

**This Initiation and Endowment of Power Must be Followed by a Definite New Way of Life:** **Romans 6:3-4** *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

**The Supreme Law of the Kingdom is the Law of Love. This is the Rule of Life:** **John 13:34-35** *A new commandment I give unto you. That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.* See also 1 Corinthians 13 and Ephesians 4:1-3, 14-16.

## THE KINGDOM OF GOD - CARD 4

By F. Henry Edwards; Missionary Sermon Studies

**The Kingdom of God has an Eternal Destiny:** As the church merges into the kingdom by progressively eliminating everything that tends to corrupt, so will the barriers that separate us from heaven be burned away.

***Psalms 102:16** When the Lord shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.*

***Psalms 50: 3-5** Our God shall come and shall not keep silence; a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people. Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.*

**Isaiah prophesied about the gathering:** ***Isaiah 2:2-3** And it shall come to pass in the last days when the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it; And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem;*

**The Invitation has Already Gone Forth:** ***DC 108:4-5** Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour. Let them, therefore, who are among the Gentiles, flee unto Zion...Go ye out from among the nations, even from Babylon, from the midst of wickedness, which is spiritual Babylon.*



## ***For Such a Time – Card 1***

by F. Henry Edwards

Mordecai made a special appeal to Esther. *Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?* Esther took her stand clearly with her people saying, “This thing I will surely do, *and if I perish, I perish.* (Esther 4:14, 16).” Esther could not have known ahead of time that she was appointed to be the deliverer of her people. Nor can we know ahead of time if we are appointed to be those who, under God, will usher in his golden age. Bishop Koehler testified, “I do not know that this is the year in which God shall build his kingdom. I only know that this is my year to try.”

**F. Henry states = “THIS IS OUR YEAR TO TRY!”**

**God has matched us with this hour. This purpose for which God has brought us to the kingdom at such a time as this is a majestic one. This is a time for greatness. The greatness to which we are called will not be ours merely because of the calling, but only of our response. It cannot be won cheaply.** Of its very nature it involves great risk and great sacrifices. But the

taking of such risks, the embracing of such sacrifices, in the cause of Christ, is what we mean by sainthood. God has always expected great things of his people. Those who are truly his people have always done valiantly in his name.

**We have come to the kingdom for such a time as this that we and our fellows may learn to love and serve God for his own sake. Remember the counsel of the Master: *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind and with all thy strength (Mat 22:36).* This is addressed to us today just as surely as it was first addressed...it takes precedence over everything else in the sight of God.** It is my deep conviction that we do not love God as we ought. As John said: *This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments (1John 5:3).* We are come to the kingdom at such a time as this in order that we may know and do the will of God with full purpose of heart because we love him. **I believe that we are come to the kingdom at such a time as this so that out of our love for God we shall do great things together. Saints let us make this year, the year that we build God’s Kingdom!**



## ***For Such a Time – Card 2***

by F. Henry Edwards



**Peter reminded the saints in his day:** *1 Peter 2:9-10 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God; which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.*

Now a people are more than a gathering of individuals...The notion of a people involves common faith and common tradition and common allegiance and common service...The followers of Jesus Christ are called to be a people. Apostle Paul had this in mind when he talked about **“the whole body fitly joined together”**. This same note of togetherness is called for in our own day. **Joseph Smith the III reminded us:** *DC 119:8b All are called according to the gifts of God unto them; and to the intent that all may labor together, let him that laboreth in the ministry and him that toileth in the affairs of the men of business and of work labor together with God for the accomplishment of the work entrusted to all.*

**Our world mission is God-given. It is Urgent and it concerns every one of us.**

We have come to the kingdom for such a time as this in order that we may learn to love God truly... We have come to the kingdom at this time in order that we may work together as none of the people of God have been able to work together before, in unbreakable unity and in world outreach. We have come to the kingdom that we might have a rich experience with God...our awareness of the all-inclusive majesty of the love of God shall be deepened and broadened in us as we work together under God...We have come to the kingdom at such a time as this that we might build the kingdom on sound foundations and by the joyous contribution of all true kingdom builders according to our several callings and capacities. *DC 98:5k When men are called unto mine everlasting gospel, and covenant with an everlasting covenant, they are accounted as the salt of the earth, and the savor of men. They are called to be the savor of men.*



### ***For Such a Time – Card 3*** By F. Henry Edwards

We have come to the kingdom at such a time as this that we might build the kingdom on sound foundations and by the joyous contribution of all true kingdom builders according to our several callings and capacities. To do this will involve both individual and group contributions. To every man God has given the skills according to his own divine wisdom, and with every gift he has given commensurate responsibilities. These talents have been invested in us for a divinely ordained purpose of our being. To fail to cultivate them is to sin against the purpose of our being...The gospel of the kingdom of God has riches for all the people of God of every race and every age...We are come to the kingdom for such a time as this...It is the purpose of our heavenly father that his people shall be people after the order of the Son of God. *Doctrine & Covenants 39:4b Thou art called to labor in my vineyard, and to build up my church, and to bring forth Zion, that it may rejoice upon the hills and flourish.*

There is no hope of the kingdom in the mere duplication of the achievements of the yesterdays. We must go forward. For every man the kingdom has a finer promise, as well as more searching demands, than anyone has yet realized. Every man is called to serve God according to the gifts of God unto him, and every man is called to stand with his brother in compassionate awareness of the difficulties of the way and in eager readiness to help him meet these difficulties. What has to be done by us individually must be done by the church as a whole...The whole church has been called to find joy in sacrifice and service that the kingdom may spread abroad. And here as in the individual realm, we dare not be held back by fear...We need no light to stand still. We need all the light we can get to learn how best to marshal our forces for victory through enlightened unity.

Who knows but what we are come to the kingdom for such things as these. Let nothing prevent us from making the contribution of which we are capable, for only in so doing shall we come to know the majestic outreach of the love of God. And let nothing separate us from each other, and from the work to which we are called together, for it is in our joint endeavor, born of unity of Spirit and made effective in the dedication of our diverse gifts, that there lies the hope of the kingdom of God in our day.



### ***For Such a Time – Card 4***

By F. Henry Edwards



**The kingdom of God will come only as our center of reference moves from us to our Heavenly Father. No mere improvement of our present world will usher in the kingdom of God. The kingdom is something entirely unique in spirit, in motivation, and in the ends sought.** There is a sense in which we must start where we are in building the kingdom. But in a far truer sense we must start where God is. Worship is the humble attempt to do this. In the spirit of worship, we say, “Not my will, but thine, O Lord be done,” and mean it. We recognize that we are “Off center”! From our babyhood up we have tried to set up separate centers for our own separate kingdoms.

When we truly enlist in the kingdom enterprise, we deny ourselves this central place which is our human inclination to demand. When we pray for the coming kingdom, we yield our feudal sovereignty in order that we may pay homage to the King of all the earth. We are astonished to find peace and fellowship and power under a banner that is not our own, but that has been unfurled for us by the Captain of all captains.

**The frontiers of the kingdom do not lie in some foreign land; they run right through the heart of every man.**

But kingdom building must be first spiritual and second temporal...the love of God and the communion of the Saints are the heartbeat of the kingdom experience. The vision which we have seen, the crusade in which we have enlisted will never be outmoded. The vision will become more clear. The crusade more demanding. And as these things happen the kingdom will be more surely built. The kingdom will not come in a moment. There is a necessary time element in its achievement. Kingdom life has about it a maturity that does not come in a day...Nothing can prevent the coming of the kingdom. It is guaranteed by the nature of Divinity.