

Questions for Denver Snuffer

Posted on the conference website prior to responses given 20 April 2019

1. We learn in the Book of Moses (now in Genesis) that baptism by water and the Spirit made Adam “a son of God; and thus may all become [His] sons.” Is this what is meant by the promise of Elijah and the covenants to reestablish the family of God? Or is something more required than baptism of water and fire? (Asked by David)

2. After the Doctrine of Christ conference in the fall of 2016, you wrote, “God’s people are always required to build a temple. Therefore, there needs to be preparation for the coming commandment. When the Nauvoo Temple was commanded to be built, the resulting struggle lasted for nearly six years before it was abandoned. It was never completed. That repeated failure will not please the Lord.” You have shared a wealth of material about the temple over the years, which strengthens our desire to see the temple built in this generation. In your opinion, are the people ready to have that commandment renewed to build the promised temple in our day? If not, could you offer suggestions on what more we can do to prepare more completely? (Asked by LDC Guest)

3. At the Layton conference last year, you said, “God demands that our hearts turn to the fathers or we will be wasted at His return. This requirement is not to turn to them in just a figurative way, where we do genealogical work to connect ourselves with our recently deceased forbearers. That work is a wrongheaded effort to seal people to those kept in prison. The return of our hearts will require us to have the same religion, and the same beliefs in our hearts that the original fathers had beginning with Adam. Only in that way will our hearts turn to the fathers.” Given the fact that the LDS Church has spent hundreds of millions of dollars building temples specifically for the purpose of sealing individuals to their deceased ancestors, are you advocating that we cease family history research as a waste of time? If so, can you provide specific counsel on how we can better utilize the time that we have been devoting to family history research in order to prepare for the promised temple to be built? (Asked by Tim Malone)

4. What words of encouragement can you give to someone whose spouse is not on board with what is happening now? I keep hearing of couples and what promises they are given, but what about those who have tried to be a faithful partner to spouse, and faithful to God? What can we hope for with Zion? (Asked by Margaret)

5. Zenos’s allegory of the olive trees specifically focuses on the fruit sought by the Lord. It is most often called “tame” fruit, “natural” fruit, or “good” fruit. How would you define this fruit in terms of what the Lord ultimately hopes to accomplish in this dispensation? Likewise, the Lord seeks this fruit so it can be laid up “against the season.” What comments can you make about “the season” and the need for the Lord to have fruit laid up? (Asked by Adrian Larsen)

6. Joseph made the statement, "God had often sealed up the heavens because of covetousness in the church." What is it about covetousness that causes God to seal up the heavens? Why specifically covetousness? (Asked by Tamandan)

7. Do you make any money off the sale of your books? A long time ago I think I heard that the proceeds went to the LDS missionary fund, but that is maybe out dated by now? Whenever I tell people you are not doing priest craft I have to include a possible exception because I don't have a definite answer on this question. (Asked by Peter Marten)

8. Do you have advice on what mistakes to watch out for as a 19 year old who thinks he knows a lot more than he actually does? (Asked by Peter Marten)

9. I'm just finishing a biography of Roger Williams, Roger Williams and the Creation of the American Soul. It was tough coming to America in the 1630's. His life and labors, his education and attainments did much for the unique spirit and law created by our Founders. Please comment on our responsibility to understand the Original Intent as it pertains to our future here, as people who are seeking Zion. Do you see a time when Common Law will replace maritime law? (Asked by Dinah Lundell)

10. With the understanding that worship will again be as it was in the days of Adam, as all is restored back to what it was in the beginning, you have taught that animal sacrifice will again be practiced. Christ came to fulfill the law, and that practice was done away. We are told that a broken heart and contrite spirit is what the Lord now requires as our sacrifice. Since the practice of animal sacrifice was a type to teach the people of the coming Messiah and He did come and fulfill the law, why would animal sacrifice be reinstated? I find the thought repugnant and difficult, so I am seeking understanding as to why it would be necessary. Please forgive me if you have already addressed this question somewhere, and I am being redundant. I really want to understand this. Thanks!!! (Asked by Sarah Wright)

11. We're separated from the first fathers to whom our hearts must turn by a vast expanse of time, language and culture. How can we better reach out in our hearts and our minds to these most successful of mortals, these friends of God? (Asked by Kevin Merrell)

12. In Enoch's and Melchizedek's days were their Zions established on raised bluffs as you mentioned this one will be? If that was so was that done to fulfill the Lord's statement that a city on a hill cannot be hid? (Asked by Jon Saunders)

13. In the Elijah talk you made reference to the fact that Adam and Eve partook of the fruit out of order; That they were to have waited until after the Sabbath; That partaking prior to the Sabbath cause work to be done one the Sabbath. Can you expand on this subject, please? (Asked by Sam Bowman)

14. I read that some people pray to Jesus. Can we do this? If so how and under what circumstances? Also, what is the Holy Order of Prayer? Should we be practicing this in our homes? One more: Personal

alters have been mentioned in my online fellowship and I don't understand anything about this. Do you have any insight into this? (Asked by Vickie)

15. Some of our children face a lot of strong opposition to belief in God from the time they are small. One issue that frequently comes up in opposition to belief is the violence against children that seems to be sanctioned by God in the Old Testament. Can you shed some light on this to help us better teach our children? Can we chalk this up to the inaccuracy of the Old Testament or is there more information that would help us put these things into context as we teach our kids? (Asked by Ritamcn)

16. We are obligated to teach our children that God intended marriage to be between one man and one woman and that chastity is important. As the LDS church has employed various strategies to promote these values in recent years, suicide rates among the young have climbed in Utah. Do you think this has to do with the way the LDS church has handled these issues, and if so, do you have any insights into what we might do differently to better help youth who struggle? (Asked by Ritamcn)

17. I ask this question because of disputations in our fellowship on this very important subject. In 3rd Nephi the Lord defines his church as those who repent and are baptized. He also instructs those who have been ordained to administer the sacrament to "give it unto the people of my church, unto all those who shall believe and be baptized in my name." He also commands "that ye shall not suffer anyone knowingly to partake of my flesh and blood unworthily", and goes on to say "and if it so be that he repenteth and is baptized in my name, then shall ye receive him and shall minister unto him of my flesh and blood." Is baptism as outlined by the Lord in 3rd Nephi chapter 5 a prerequisite to be considered worthy to partake of the sacrament in our fellowships and elsewhere, even if a person has been previously baptized into the L.D.S. church or any other church? "And I give you these commandments because of disputations which have been among you. And blessed are ye if ye have no disputations among you." We would appreciate any clarification you can give us. (Asked by Cyndy Williams)

18. I have always admired and loved Emma Smith. I wonder about the wives of great men that I read about in scripture, and try to understand their role in moving forward with what the Lord wants done in any age. Did Emma know the same things that Joseph did? Was she taught from on high as he was? Was he allowed to share everything with her? Coming from an LDS background my husband when serving as Bishop, couldn't discuss anything with me. I absolutely loved your "Divine Parents" talk that helped me understand some of these questions, but I want to know more about wives from the Lords point of view. (Asked by Joni)

19. Should we be wearing the Temple garment night and day because it is a commandment from the Lord or is it just a tradition created by men? (Asked by Gary)

20. a: How does the plan of salvation work for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters? b. In your opinion if the Lord gave the movement as a collective a grade so far what would it be? c. What recommendation would you give the youth in the movement, who are active in the church and still want to serve an LDS mission? (Asked by Nicodemus)

21. As it is a full moon this weekend and God has produced many miraculous signs in the Heavens the past few years, what does this full moon (Mother/Wisdom in full) during this Holy Day and Passover, during this conference, mean for us? (Asked by A.N.)

22. Will you please expound upon Zion, the connection of Heaven and Earth? (Asked by A.N.)

23. I have noticed the phrase “pursue judgment” in both the “Answer and Covenant” and in our Heavenly Mother’s words quoted in “Our Divine Parents.” Would you please expound upon this phrase and explain what it means? Thank you. (Asked by Arlene)

24 a: In the Marriage and Family talk you said we should show our children that Joseph Smith could not have written the Book of Mormon. Are there any books or articles that you think are particularly good resources for pointing some of these things out? Aside from the fact that the Book of Mormon contains so much light and truth, what are a few of the most compelling things that demonstrate that Joseph Smith could not have written the Book of Mormon that you can think of? b: The scriptures say that all things were created to testify of Christ and his path. You’ve written and spoken of several things already, for instance, the birds chirping for joy before dawn as a witness of when Christ was resurrected or the sun and moon testifying of the role of Heavenly Parents. These things seem to capture the interest of kids. Can you share some more of the ways that nature testifies of Christ and his plan to aid us in helping the kids learn to see God in the world around us? (Asked by BJM)

25. We know that we should not have to be commanded in all things, but we also do not want to “rush the pass” and do things before we are ready or authorized by Heavenly Father and Christ. In respect to Zion and a temple that we know must be built, how do we know if we are doing enough? How do we know if we should be doing more, or if we should wait upon the Lord so that we do not condemn ourselves? In the early Church, God told the Saints to go ahead and attempt Zion, because they had a desire to do so, but they were not ready and failed. Then when they were commanded to build a temple, they did not complete it in time, and they lost the blessings and fullness that they could have had. We do not want to fail. Can you give us some advice on this? (Asked by Sarah Wright)

26. As we contemplate a future Zion, we have to wrestle with what it means to be equal, to be of one heart, one mind, etc. How does equality work, when we are all given different gifts, abilities, and levels of understanding, some of which may be more outwardly manifest? Should we encourage one another to use our gifts to benefit all, even though this makes us appear unequal? Or should we instead require that everyone be equal in all things, including equally gifted or ungifted? (Asked by Tausha Larsen)

27. Since the new revelation on Marriage from the Lord spells out that Jacob is sitting upon a throne with Rachel, what is to come of Leah, since Jacob had married her first, had children with her, but is now sitting upon a throne with Rachel? (Asked by Devin)

28. In one of your talks or podcasts you had mentioned that Heavenly Mother created the various classes of angels, and that they are like different rungs on Jacobs's ladder. So if one angel is closer to God than another, as I assume the Seraphim are, what are these various ranks or classes of angels (in order) and their purpose or assignment from God? (Asked by Devin)

29. Who are the children of the widow and who are the children of the bride? (Asked by Marian)

30. Again and again scripture shows God has appointed the Sabbath to be honored and enjoyed on the 7th day of the week. It was the Catholic Church, under Emperor Constantine, that changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. The Catholic Church later bragged that the whole world practicing the Sabbath on Sunday proved their holy authority (I emphatically refuse to give them any authority of that sort). In summation, what doctrinal reason is there to not begin Sabbath Friday at Sundown, enjoy its precious gift and freedom from bondage on Saturday and feel free to conclude it at Sundown Saturday. Sunday is a false Sabbath that encourages blasphemy of the Lord's true intended order. However, Sunday is the Lord's Holy day, to perhaps serve and love your family, neighbor, and enemy; to still rest from your personal labors and cares and participate in fellowships to gather and rejoice in the Lord together. Going places like "church" and family dinners, service opportunities etc. Like the Mosiah 9:10 in the RE scripture says, observe the Sabbath and another day appoint for meeting together. (Asked by Kimberlee Galaxy)

31. a) Can you expound on the definition of "last dispensation" found in the glossary in the T&C? How should this change our understanding of "the dispensation of the fullness of times" and the "time of the restoration of all things?" b) Can we expect a restoration of things that were recently lost when the gentiles rejected the fullness of the gospel, as Yahshua, Moroni, Joseph, Isaiah, Nephi and so many more prophesied? c) Can we soon accept our sisters, mothers & daughters as our equals as the Lord has commanded and again ordain them to the order of the priesthood? How long 'til we have this great truth and strength to our future generations restored to us, as in the opening of Joseph's & Yahshua's dispensations? When will the prophetess among the tribes of Israel be permitted to teach her neighbors with the same authority that Miriam did in her brother Moses's dispensation? d) As with previous dispensations, are we to expect a restoration of the United Order in time? In T&C 35:6 Christ tells us that it is not given that one man should possess that which is above another and that this inequality is why the world lies in sin. In Enoch's, Joseph's, and Yahshua's dispensations we have records of direct commandments & covenants with the Lord to combat this inequality & get the church to stop worshipping mammon. How long 'til we have them restored to us and are freed from the lower law of tithes & offerings? (Asked by Dallan Cook)