

The Times of Restitution of All Things

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Aeg, mil oma kohale asetatakse kõik

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The most important and glorious “good news” is the message that the Lord Jesus Christ has restored His gospel and Church in the latter days.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized 195 years ago today, on April 6, 1830.

A small congregation of believers and friends gathered for this momentous and joyous occasion. A great outpouring of the Spirit blessed all in attendance as the ordinance of the sacrament was administered, the gift of the Holy Ghost was conferred, priesthood ordinations were performed, and truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ were preached.

In reestablishing His Church, the Lord designated by revelation 24-year-old Joseph Smith as its earthly leader: “a seer, a translator, a prophet, an apostle of Jesus Christ, an elder of the church through the will of God the Father, and the grace of your Lord Jesus Christ.”

I earnestly pray for the help of the Holy Ghost as we consider the importance and ongoing impact of this singular event in the history of the world.

The First Vision

The formal organization of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was the culmination of a sequence of miraculous experiences. The first of these experiences occurred 10 years earlier in upstate New York.

In the spring of 1820, a young boy named Joseph Smith went into the woods near his home to pray. He had questions regarding the salvation of his soul, and he yearned “to know which of all

Kõige tähtsam ja hiilgavam hea uudis on sõnum, et Issand Jeesus Kristus on taastanud viimsel ajal oma evangeeliumi ja Kiriku.

Viimse Aja Pühade Jeesuse Kristuse Kiriku organiseeriti 195 aastat tagasi, 6. aprillil 1830.

Selleks oluliseks ja rõõmsaks sündmuseks kogunes kokku väike rühm usklikke ja sõpru. Kõiki kohalviibijaid õnnistati suure Vaimu väljavalamisega, kui viidi läbi sakramenditalitust, anti Püha Vaimu andi, pühitseti preesterlusse ja jutlustati Jeesuse Kristuse evangeeliumi tõdesid.

Oma Kirikut taastades määras Issand ilmutuse kaudu 24-aastase Joseph Smithi selle Kiriku juhiks: „nägijaks, tõlkijaks, prohvetiks, Jeesuse Kristuse apostlik, kiriku vanemaks Isa Jumala tahte ja sinu Issanda Jeesuse Kristuse armu läbi”.

Ma palvetan tõsimeelselt, et Püha Vaim meid aitaks, kui me mõtiskleme selle erakordse sündmuse tähtsuse ja mõju üle maailma ajaloos.

Esimene nägemus

Viimse Aja Pühade Jeesuse Kristuse Kiriku ametlik organiseerimine oli imetabaste kogemustejada haripunkt. Esimene neist kogemustest leidis aset 10 aastat varem New Yorgi osariigis.

1820. aasta kevadel läks noormees, kelle nimi oli Joseph Smith, kodulähedasse metsa palvetama. Tal oli küsimusi oma hinge päästmise kohta ja ta soovis teada, „missugune neist kõikidest

the [churches] was right, that [he] might know which to join.” Joseph trusted that God would answer his prayer and direct him.

Please note that Joseph did not pray merely to know what was right. Rather, he prayed to know what was right so he could do what was right. Joseph asked in faith and was determined to act in accordance with the answers he received.

“In [response] to his [sincere] prayer, God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, appeared to Joseph and inaugurated the ‘restitution of all things’ (Acts 3:21) as foretold in the Bible. In this vision, he learned that following the death of the original Apostles, Christ’s New Testament Church was lost from the earth.” Joseph Smith would be instrumental in restoring once again the doctrine, the authority, and the covenants and ordinances of the Savior’s ancient Church.

Joseph affirmed: “I saw two Personages, whose brightness and glory defy all description, standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!”

Through this vision and subsequent supernal experiences, Joseph Smith came to understand that God and Jesus Christ knew him as an individual, cared about his eternal salvation, and had a mission for him to perform. He also learned vital lessons about the attributes, character, and perfections of the Godhead—and that the Father and the Son are separate and distinct Beings. Jesus Christ is the literal Son of God in spirit and in the flesh.

Joseph Smith declared that Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ are corporeal beings. He said, “The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of Spirit.”

I testify the visitation of the Father and the Son to Joseph Smith was the initiating event in the grand “restoration of all things spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets since the world began.”

The Book of Mormon

The second in the sequence of miraculous experiences that led to the formal organization of the Savior’s restored Church was the translation and coming forth of the Book of Mormon.

“Joseph Smith was given the gift and power

[kirikutest] on õige, et [ta võiks] teada, millisega liituda.” Joseph usaldas, et Jumal vastab ta palvele ja juhatab teda.

Palun pange tähele, et Joseph ei palvetanud pelgalt selleks, et teada, mis on õige. Pigem soovis ta palvetades teada saada, mis on õige, et ta võiks õigesti käituda. Joseph palus ususja ta oli otsustanud saadud vastuse järgi ka tegutseda.

„Vastusena tema palvele ilmusid Josephile Isa Jumal ja Tema Poeg Jeesus Kristus ning panid aluse ajale, „mil oma kohale asetatakse kõik” (Ap 3:21), nagu Piiblis on ette kuulutatud. Selles nägemuses sai ta teada, et pärast algsete apostlite surma oli Kristuse Uue Testamendi aegne Kirik maa pealt kadunud.” Joseph Smith mängis olulist rolli, et Päästja muistse Kiriku õpetust, volitust ning lepinguid ja talitusi uuesti taastada.

Joseph kinnitas: „Nägin .. enda kohal õhus seisimas kahte Isikut, kelle sära ja hiilgust on võimatu kirjeldada. Üks nendest pöördus minu poole, kutsudes mind nimepidi, ja osutas teisele ning ütles: „See on minu armas Poeg. Kuula Teda!””

Selle nägemuse ja järgnenud taevaste kogemuste kaudu sai Joseph Smith aru, et Jumal ja Jeesus Kristus tundsid teda isiklikult, hoolisid tema igavesest saatusest ja neil oli talle missioon. Lisaks sai ta olulisi õppetunde Jumaluse omaduste, iseloomu ja täiuslikkuse ning selle kohta, et Isa ja Poeg on eraldiseisvad ja selgelt eristatavad Isikud. Jeesus Kristus on sõna otseses mõttes Jumala Poeg vaimus ja lihas.

Joseph Smith kuulutas, et Taevasel Isal ja Jeesusel Kristusel on keha. Ta ütles: „Isal on lihas ja luust keha, sama käegakatsutav nagu inimeselgi; Pojal samuti; kuid Pühal Vaimul ei ole lihas ja luust keha, vaid tema on vaimisik.”

Ma tunnistan, et Isa ja Poja ilmumine Joseph Smithile oli sissejuhatav sündmus suurele „kõikide nende asjade taastamisel”, mis on maailma algusest peale kõigi pühade prohvetite suu läbi .. räägitud.”

Mormoni Raamat

Teine kogemus Päästja taastatud Kiriku ametliku organiseerimiseni viinud imetabaste kogemuste jadas oli Mormoni Raamatu tõlkimine ja esiletulek.

„Joseph Smithile anti Jumala and ja vägi

of God to translate an ancient record: the Book of Mormon—Another Testament of Jesus Christ. ... This sacred text include[s] an account of the personal ministry of Jesus Christ among people in the Western Hemisphere soon after His Resurrection. [The Book of Mormon] teaches of life's purpose and explains the doctrine of Christ, which is central to that purpose. As a companion scripture to the Bible, the Book of Mormon testifies that all human beings are sons and daughters of a loving Father in Heaven, that He has a divine plan for our lives, and that His Son, Jesus Christ, speaks today as well as in days of old."

As members of the Savior's restored Church, "We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God." The Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ, confirms the truthfulness of the Bible, and restores plain and precious truths that were lost from the Bible.

Priesthood Restored

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints teaches that the original Church established by the Savior, with its divine authority, doctrine, and covenants and ordinances, was lost from the earth. As part of the prophesied restoration of all things in the latter days, ancient prophets and apostles personally conferred priesthood authority upon Joseph Smith and committed priesthood keys to him. This was the third in the sequence of miraculous experiences that led to the formal organization of the Savior's restored Church.

Priesthood authority allows God's servants to "represent [Him] and act in His name." "Priesthood keys are the authority to direct the use of the priesthood on behalf of God's children."

Under the direction of the Father and the Son, the resurrected John the Baptist restored, in 1829, the authority to baptize by immersion for the remission of sins. In that same year, three of the original Twelve Apostles—Peter, James, and John—restored the apostleship and additional priesthood authority and keys.

Six years after the formal organization of the Church, in the Kirtland Temple, Moses, Elias, and Elijah committed to Joseph the additional authority necessary to accomplish God's work in the latter days.

Moses committed the keys of the gathering

tõlkida muistne ülestähendus: Mormoni Raamat – teine testament Jeesusest Kristusest. [See] püha teks[t] .. on ülevaade Jeesuse Kristuse isiklikust teenimisest inimeste seas läänepoolkeral peatselt pärast Tema ülestõusmist. [Mormoni Raamat] õpetab elu eesmärki ja selgitab Kristuse õpetust, millel on selles eesmärgis keskne koht. Piibli kaaspühakirjana tunnistab Mormoni Raamat, et kõik inimesed on armastava Taevase Isa pojad ja tütred, et Tal on meie elu jaoks jumalik plaan ja et Tema Poeg Jeesus Kristus räägib tänapäevalgi nagu vanal ajal."

Päästja taastatud Kiriku liikmetena: „Me usume, et Piibel on Jumala sõna sel määral, kui see on tõlgitud õigesti; me usume samuti, et Mormoni Raamat on Jumala sõna.” Mormoni Raamat on teine testament Jeesusest Kristusest, see kinnitab Piibli õigsust ning taastab selged ja hinnalised tõed, mis olid Piiblist kadunud.

Preesterluse taastamine

Viimse Aja Pühade Jeesuse Kristuse Kirikus õpetatakse, et Päästja rajatud algkirik kadus koos jumaliku volituse, õpetuse ning lepingute ja talitustega maa pealt. Kõigi asjade prohvetlikult kuulutatud taastamine viimsel ajal hõlmas ka seda, et vanaaja prohvetid ja apostlid andsid isiklikult prohvet Joseph Smithile preesterluse volituse ja usaldasid tema hoolde preesterluse võtmed. See oli kolmas kogemus imetabaste kogemuste jadas, mis viis Päästja taastatud Kiriku ametliku organiseerimiseni.

Preesterluse volitus võimaldab Jumala teenijatel Teda „esindada ja Tema nimel tegutseda”. „Preesterluse võtmed on volitus juhatada preesterluse kasutamist Jumala laste heaks.”

Isa ja Poja juhatusel taastas ülestõusnud Ristija Johannes 1829. aastal volituse ristida vee alla kastmise teel pattude andekssaamiseks. Samal aastaltaastasid kolm algupärasest kaheteistkümnest apostlist – Peetrus, Jaakobus ja Johannes – apostliameti ning täiendava preesterluse volituse ja võtmed.

Kuus aastat pärast Kiriku ametlikku organiseerimist andsid Mooses, Eelijas ja Eelija Josephile Kirtlandi templis täiendava volituse, mis on vajalik Jumala töö tegemiseks viimsel ajal.

Mooses andis Iisraeli kokkukogumise võt-

of Israel.

Elias committed the dispensation of the gospel of Abraham, including the restoration of the Abrahamic covenant.

Elijah committed the keys of the sealing power, providing the authority that allows ordinances performed on earth to be binding in eternity, such as joining families together in eternal relationships that transcend death.

The Church of Jesus Christ Is Organized

As Joseph Smith translated the Book of Mormon, he received revelations indicating that the Church of Jesus Christ would be reestablished. But the Lord instructed Joseph not to organize His Church immediately. Rather, “by the spirit of prophecy and revelation,” the Lord revealed to Joseph “the precise day ... [he] should proceed to organize His Church once [again] upon the earth.”

The Church was organized in proper sequence only after the restoration of the priesthood and the publication of the Book of Mormon. The first copies of the Book of Mormon became available on March 26, 1830, and the Church was formally organized on April 6.

“The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ... is Christ’s New Testament Church restored. This Church is anchored in the perfect life of its chief cornerstone, Jesus Christ, and in His infinite Atonement and literal Resurrection. Jesus Christ has once again called Apostles and has given them priesthood authority. He invites all of us to come unto Him and His Church, to receive the Holy Ghost, the ordinances of salvation, and to gain enduring joy.”

The Dispensation of the Fulness of Times

The appearance of the Father and the Son to Joseph Smith, the translation and coming forth of the Book of Mormon, and the restoration of priesthood authority and keys were necessary prerequisites to the organization of the Lord’s restored Church 195 years ago today.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Daniel interpreted a dream about a stone that would be cut out of a mountain without hands and fill the entire earth. One year after the organization of the Church, the Lord instructed Joseph Smith

med.

Eelijas andis Aabrahami evangeeliumi ajajär-
gu ning taastas sealhulgas ka Aabrahami lepingu.

Eelija andis pitseerimisvõe võtmed koos volitusega teha maa peal talitusi, mis on siduvad igavikus, näiteks perede ühteliitmine, et nende suhe oleks igavene ja kestaks edasi pärast surma.

Jeesuse Kristuse Kiriku organiseerimine

Kui Joseph Smith tõlkis Mormoni Raamatut, sai ta ilmutusi, milles viidati Jeesuse Kristuse Kiriku taastasutamisele. Kuid Issand andis Josephile juhatust, et ta ei organiseeriks Tema Kirikut otsekohe. Pigem ilmutas Issand Josephile „ettekuulutuse ja ilmutuse vaimu kaudu .. kindla päeva, mil .. [ta pidi] asuma taastama Tema Kirikut taas kord .. maa peale”.

Kirik organiseeriti õiges järjekorras alles pärast preesterluse taastamist ja Mormoni Raamatu avaldamist. Esimesed Mormoni Raamatu eksemplarid ilmusid trükist 26. märtsil 1830 ja Kirik organiseeriti ametlikult 6. aprillil.

„Viimse Aja Pühade Jeesuse Kristuse Kirik .. on Kristuse Uue Testamendi aegne taastatud Kirik. See Kirik on kinnitatud selle nurgakivi, Jeesuse Kristuse täiusliku elu ning Tema lõputu lepituse ja tõestisündinud ülestõusmise külge. Jeesus Kristus on taas kutsunud apostleid ja andnud neile preesterluse volituse. Ta kutsub meid kõiki tulema Tema juurde ja Tema Kirikusse, võtma vastu Püha Vaimu, päästeks vajalikud talitused ja tundma kehtvat rõõmu.”

Aegade täiuse evangeeliumi ajajärk

Isa ja Poja ilmumine Joseph Smithile, Mormoni Raamatu tõlkimine ja esiletulek ning preesterluse volituse ja võtmete taastamine olid vajalikud eeldused Issanda taastatud Kiriku organiseerimiseks täna, 195. aastat tagasi.

Vana Testamendi prohvet Taaniel seletas unenäo kivist, mis murdub mäest lahti ilma käte abita ja täidab kogu maa. Aasta pärast Kiriku organiseerimist õpetas Issand Joseph Smithi, et Jumala kuningriigi võtmed „usaldat[i] taas” ini-

that the keys of the kingdom of God had again been “committed unto man on the earth” and the “gospel [of Jesus Christ would] roll forth unto the ends of the earth, as the stone which is cut out of the mountain without hands.”

I testify: The Lord is fulfilling His promise. The Savior’s restored Church is being established throughout the world and is the instrument by which God will “gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.”

The Lord’s latter-day work “is a cause that has interested the people of God in every age; it is a theme upon which prophets, priests and kings have dwelt with peculiar delight; they have looked forward with joyful anticipation to the day in which we live; and fired with heavenly and joyful anticipations they have sung and written and prophesied of this our day.”

In this greatest and last of all gospel dispensations, “a whole and complete and perfect union, and welding together of dispensations, and keys, and powers, and glories should take place, and be revealed from the days of Adam even to the present time. And not only this, but those things which never have been revealed from the foundation of the world ... shall be revealed ... in this, the dispensation of the fulness of times.”

The Prophet Joseph further explained, “All the ordinances and duties that ever have been required by the Priesthood, under the directions and commandments of the Almighty in any of the dispensations, shall all be had in the last dispensation, ... bringing to pass the restoration spoken of by the mouth of all the Holy Prophets.”

Promises and Testimony

I have attempted to summarize basic elements of the most important and glorious “good news” any person anywhere in the world can ever receive—the message that the Lord Jesus Christ has restored His gospel and Church in the latter days.

I invite all to learn about and prove this message. I promise that individuals “who prayerfully study the message of the Restoration and act in faith will be blessed [through the power of the Holy Ghost] to gain their own witness of its divinity and of its purpose to prepare the world for the promised Second Coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.” As you pray earnestly with

mesele maa peal” ja et Jeesuse Kristuse „evangeelium [veereb] välja maa äärteni nagu kivi, mis on mäest lahti murtud ilma käte abita”.

Ma tunnistan: Issand peab oma lubadust. Päästja taastatud Kirikut asutatakse kogu maailmas ja see on vahend, mille kaudu Jumal „Kristuses kokku võ[tab] kõik, mis on taevas ja mis on maa peal”.

Issanda viimse aja töö „on eesmärk, mis on huvitanud Jumala rahvast ajast aega; see on tee-ma, mida prohvetid, preestrid ja kuningad on käsitlenud erilise rõõmuga. Rõõmsa ootusärevusega on nad oodanud tänast päeva, milles meie elame; ning laetuna taevalikust ja rõõmsast ootusest, on nad laulnud ja kirjutanud ning kuulutanud prohvetlikult sellest meie ajast”.

Sel kõikidest ajajärgudest tähtsaimal ja viimasel ajajärgul „leia[b] aset täielik ja terviklik ja täiuslik ühendamine ning evangeeliumi ajajärgude ja võtmete ja vägede ja hiilguste ühtesidumine ja et need ilmutataks alates Aadama päevist kuni praeguse ajani välja. Ja mitte ainult seda, vaid sellel aegade täiuse evangeeliumi ajajärgul ilmutatakse .. need asjad, mida maailma rajamisest peale pole kunagi ilmutatud”.

Prohvet Joseph selgitas täiendavalt: „Kõik talitused ja kohustused, mida iial on igal ajajärgul Kõigeväelise juhendamisel ja käskude alusel preesterluse peale pandud, saadakse viimasel evangeeliumi ajajärgul .. [millega] saab teoks taastamine, millest on räägitud kõikide pühade prohvetite suu läbi.”

Lubadused ja tunnistus

Ma olen püüdnud teha kokkuvõtet nende kõige tähtsamate ja hiilgavamate heade uudiste põhielementidest, mida keegi kuskil maailmas võib iial saada, milleks on sõnum, et Issand Jeesus Kristus on taastanud viimisel ajal oma evangeeliumi ja Kiriku.

Ma kutsun kõiki sellest sõnumist teada saama ja seda järele proovima. Ma luban, et kõiki, „kes uurivad palvemeelselt taastamissõnumit ja tegutsevad usus, õnnistatakse [Püha Vaimu väel] isikliku tunnistusega selle jumalikkusest ja selle eesmärgist valmistada maailma ette meie Issanda ja Päästja Jeesuse Kristuse lubatud teiseks tulemiseks”. Kui te palvetate noore Joseph Smithi

the expectation to both receive and act upon an answer from God, as did young Joseph Smith, your capacity to recognize and respond to that divine witness will be increased.

I witness that God, the Eternal Father, is our Father. I testify and witness that Jesus Christ is the Father's Beloved Son and His Only Begotten in the flesh. He is our Savior and Redeemer.

And I joyfully witness that the Father and the Son appeared to the boy Joseph Smith, thus initiating the Restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ in the latter days. The Book of Mormon is another testament of Jesus Christ and contains the word of God. Priesthood authority to represent the Savior and act in His name again is found on the earth. And The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is Christ's New Testament Church restored. I bear my sure witness that all of these things are true in the sacred name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

eeskujul tõsimeelselt, eeldades, et Jumal vastab teile, ja et te asute selle vastuse ajal tegutsema, suureneb teie võime seda jumalikku tunnistust tähele panna ja sellele reageerida.

Tunnistan, et Jumal, Igavene Isa, on meie Isa. Ma tunnistan, et Jeesus Kristus on Isa Armas Poeg ja Ta Ainusündinu lihas. Ta on meie Päästja ja Lunastaja.

Ja ma tunnistan rõõmsalt, et Isa ja Poeg ilmusid poisiohtu Joseph Smithile, juhatahes see läbi sisse Jeesuse Kristuse evangeeliumi taastamise viimisel ajal. Mormoni Raamat on teine tunnistus Jeesusest Kristusest ja sisaldab Jumala sõna. Maa peal on taas preesterluse volitus, et Päästjat esindada ja Tema nimel tegutseda. Ja Viimse Aja Pühade Jeesuse Kristuse Kirik on taastatud Uue Testamendi aegne Kristuse Kirik. Ma annad oma kindla tunnistuse, et see kõik on tõsi, Issanda Jeesuse Kristuse pühal nimel, aamen.