

The Times of Restitution of All Things

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Nyakati za Urejeshaji wa Mambo Yote

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Wa Akidi ya Mitume Kumi na Wawili

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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

Kilicho muhimu sana na “habari njema” tukufu ni ujumbe kwamba Bwana Yesu Kristo amerejesha injili na Kanisa Lake katika siku za mwisho.

Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho lilianzishwa siku kama ya leo, Aprili 6, 1830, miaka 195 iliyopita.

Mkusanyiko mdogo wa waumini na marafiki walikusanyika kwa ajili ya tukio hili kuu na la shangwe. Mmiminiko mkubwa wa Roho uliwa-bariki wote waliokuwepo wakati ibada ya sakramenti ilipokuwa ikifanyika, kipawa cha Roho Mtakatifu kilitunukiwa, kutawazwa kwenye ukuhani kulifanyika na kweli za injili ya Yesu Kristo zilihubiriwa.

Katika kuanzisha tena Kanisa Lake, Bwana alimteua kupitia ufunuo Joseph Smith mwenye umri wa miaka 24 kama kiongozi wake duniani: “Mwonaji, mfasiri, nabii, mtume wa Yesu Kristo, mzee wa kanisa kwa mapenzi ya Mungu Baba, na neema ya Bwana wenu Yesu Kristo.”

Ninasali kwa dhati kwa ajili ya msaada wa Roho Mtakatifu tunapo tafakari umuhimu wa matokeo endelevu ya tukio hili kuu kwenye historia ya ulimwengu huu.

Ono la Kwanza

Uanzishwaji rasmi wa Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho ulikuwa umefikia kilele cha mlolongo wa matukio ya kimiujiza. Matukio ya kwanza ya hayo yalitokea miaka 10 kabla huko upstate New York.

Mnamo majira ya kuchipua ya mwaka 1820, kijana aliyeitwa Joseph Smith alikwenda kwenye kisitu karibu na nyumba yake ili kusali. Alikuwa na maswali kuhusu wokovu wa nafsi yake,

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

na alitamani kujua “lipi kati ya [makanisa] yote lilikuwa la kweli, ili [ajue] lipi la kujiunga nalo.” - Joseph aliamini kwamba Mungu angejibu sala yake na kumwelekeza.

Tafadhali zingatia kwamba Joseph hakusali tu kwa ajili ya kujua kipi ni sahihi. Badala yake, alisali kujua kipi ni sahihi ili kwamba afanye kili-cho sahihi. Joseph aliuliza kwa imanina alikuwa na nia ya kutenda kulingana na jibu alilopokea.

“Kwenye [jibu] la sala yake ya [dhati], Mungu Baba na Mwanawe, Yesu Kristo walimtokea Joseph na kuzindua ‘urejeshaji wa vitu vyote’ (Matendo ya Mitume 3:2) kama ilivyotabiriwa kwenye Biblia. Katika ono hili, alijifunza kwamba kufuatia kifo cha Mitume wa mwanzo, Kanisa la Kristo la Agano Jipya lilitoweka duniani” Joseph Smith angekuwa chombo kwenye kurejesha kwa mara nyingine tena mafundisho, mamlaka na maagano na ibada za Kanisa la kale la Mwokozi.

Joseph alisisitiza: “Niliwaona viumbe wawili, ambao mng’aro na utukufu wao wapita maelezo yote, wakiwa wamesimama juu yangu angani. Mmoja wao akaniambia, akiniita mimi kwa jina na kusema, huku akimwonyesha yule mwingine—Huyu ni Mwanangu Mpendwa. Msikilize Yeye!”

Kupitia ono hili na uzoefu uliofuatia baada ya hapo, Joseph Smith alikuja kuelewa kwamba Mungu na Yesu Kristo walimjua kama mtu binafsi, walijali kuhusu wokovu wake wa milele na walikuwa na jukumu kwa ajili yake. Pia alijifunza masomo muhimu kuhusu tabia, sifa na utimilifu wa Uungu—na kwamba Baba na Mwana ni viumbe wawili tofauti. Yesu Kristo ni Mwana wa Mungu kiroho na kimwili.

Joseph Smith alitamka kwamba Baba wa Mbinguni na Yesu Kristo ni viumbe wanaohusiana. Alisema, “Baba ana mwili wa nyama na mifupa wenye kushikika kama wa mwanadamu; na Mwana vile vile; lakini Roho Mtakatifu hana mwili wa nyama na mifupa, bali ni mtu wa Kiroho.”

Ninashuhudia kwamba kutembelewa kwa Joseph Smith na Baba na Mwana lilikuwa tukio la kuanzisha “urejesho mkuu wa mambo yote yaliyozungumzwa kwa vinywa vya manabii wote watakatifu tangu mwanzo wa ulimwengu.”

Kitabu cha Mormoni

Wa pili katika mlolongo wa uzoefu wa kimiujiza ambao ulipelekea kwenye kuanzishwa

the Savior's restored Church was the translation and coming forth of the Book of Mormon.

"Joseph Smith was given the gift and power 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

rasmi kwa Kanisa la lililorejeshwa la Mwokozi ni tafsiri na ujio wa Kitabu cha Mormoni.

"Joseph Smith alipewa kipawa na nguvu ya Mungu ili kutafsiri kumbukumbu ya kale: Kitabu cha Mormoni—Ushuhuda mwingine wa Yesu Kristo. Kurasa za maandishi haya matakatifu zinajumuisha maelezo ya huduma binafsi ya Yesu Kristo miongoni mwa watu wa sehemu ya Ulimwengu wa Magharibi punde baada ya Ufufuko Wake. [Kitabu cha Mormoni] kinafundisha juu ya lengo la maisha na kuelezea mafundisho ya Kristo, ambayo ni kiini cha lengo hilo. Kama maandiko mwenza kwa Biblia, Kitabu cha Mormoni kinashuhudia kwamba wanadamu wote ni wana na mabinti wa Baba wa Mbinguni mwenye upendo, kwamba Yeye anao mpango wa kiungu kwa ajili ya maisha yetu, na kwamba Mwanawe, Yesu Kristo, anazungumza leo kama vile ilivyokuwa katika siku za kale."

Kama waumini wa Kanisa lililorejeshwa la Kristo "Tunaamini katika Biblia kuwa ni neno la Mungu alimradi imetafsiriwa kwa usahihi; pia tunaamini Kitabu cha Mormoni kuwa ni neno la Mungu." Kitabu cha Mormoni ni ushuhuda mwingine wa Yesu Kristo, kikithibitisha ukweli wa Biblia na kurejesha kweli zilizo wazi na za thamani ambazo zilipotea kutoka kwenye Biblia.

Ukuhani Umerejeshwa

Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho hufundisha kwamba kanisa la asili lililoanzishwa na Mwokozi, likiwa na mamlaka ya kiungu, mafundisho na maagano na ibada, lilitoweka ulimwenguni. Kama sehemu ya unabii juu ya urejesho wa vitu vyote katika siku za mwisho, manabii wa kale na mitume wao wenyewe walitunuku mamlaka ya ukuhani kwa Joseph Smith na kumpa funguo za ukuhani. Hili lilikuwa tukio la tatu katika mlolongo wa matukio ya kimiujiza ambayo yaliongoza kwenye uanzishwaji rasmi wa Kanisa la Mwokozi lililorejeshwa.

Mamlaka ya Ukuhani huwaruhusu watumishi wa Mungu "kumuwakilisha [Yeye] na kutenda katika jina Lake." "Funguo za Ukuhani ni mamlaka ya kuelekeza matumizi ya ukuhani kwa niaba ya watoto wa Mungu."

Chini ya mwongozo wa Baba na Mwana, Yohana Mbatizaji aliyefufuka alirejesha, mnamo 1829, mamlaka ya ubatizo kwa kuzamishwa majini kwa ajili ya ondoleo la dhambi. Katika mwaka huo huo, watatu kati ya Mitume wa mwanzo—

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 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

Petro, Yakobo na Yohana—walirejesha utume na nyongeza ya mamlaka na funguo za ukuhani.

Miaka sita baada ya kuanzishwa kwa Kanisa, Musa, Elia na Eliya walikabidhi kwa Joseph ndani ya Hekalu la Kirtland mamlaka muhimu ya ziada ili kukamilisha kazi ya Mungu katika siku za mwisho.

Musa alikabidhi funguo za kuikusanya Israel.

Elia alikabidhi kipindi cha maongozi ya injili ya Ibrahimu ikijumuisha urejesho wa agano la Ibrahimu.

Eliya alikabidhi funguo za nguvu ya kuunganisha, akitoa mamlaka ambayo yanaruhusu ibada zinazofanyika duniani kufungwa milele yote, kama vile kuunganisha familia pamoja kwenye uhusiano wa milele ambao unaendelea kupita kifo.

Kanisa la Yesu Kristo Linaanzishwa

Wakati Joseph Smith akitafsiri Kitabu cha Mormoni alipokea funuo zikionyesha kwamba Kanisa la Yesu Kristo litaanzishwa upya. Lakini Bwana alimuelekeza Joseph asilianzishe Kanisa Lake mara moja. Badala yake, “kwa roho ya unabii na ufunuo” Bwana alifunua kwa Joseph “siku maalum ... ambayo [yeye] angetakiwa kuanzisha Kanisa Lake kwa mara nyingine [tena] duniani.”

Kanisa lilianzishwa katika mlolongo sahihi baada tu ya urejesho wa ukuhani na kuchapishwa kwa Kitabu cha Mormoni. Nakala za kwanza za Kitabu cha Mormoni zilipatikana mnamo Machi 26, 1830 na Kanisa lilianzishwa rasmi mnamo Aprili 6.

“Kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho ni Kanisa la Kristo la Agano Jipya lililorejeshwa. Kanisa linajikita katika maisha makamilifu ya jiwe lake kuu la pembeni, Yesu Kristo, na katika Upatanisho Wake usio na mwisho na Ufufuko wake halisi. Yesu Kristo kwa mara nyingine tena amewaita Mitume na amewapa mamlaka ya ukuhani. Anatualika sote kwenda Kwake na Kanisa Lake, ili kumpokea Roho Mtakatifu, ibada za wokovu, na kupata shangwe ya kudumu.”

Kipindi cha Maongozi ya Mungu cha Utimilifu wa Nyakati

Kutokea huku kwa Baba na Mwana kwa

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 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

Joseph Smith, tafsiri na ujio wa Kitabu cha Mormoni na urejesho wa mamlaka na funguo za ukuhani vilikuwa vitu muhimu vilivyopaswa kutangulia kabla ya uanzishwaji wa Kanisa la Bwana lililorejeshwa miaka 195 iliyopita siku kama ya leo.

Katika agano la kale, nabii Danieli alitoa tafsiri ya ndoto kuhusu jiwe ambalo lingechongwa bila kazi ya mikono kutoka mlimani na kuijaza dunia yote. Mwaka mmoja baada ya kuanzishwa kwa Kanisa, Bwana alimuelekeza Joseph Smith kwamba funguo za ufalme wa Mungu zilikuwa tena "zimetolewa kwa mwanadamu duniani" na "injili [ya Yesu Kristo ingesonga] mbele mpaka miisho ya dunia, kama jiwe ambalo limechongwa bila kazi ya mikono kutoka mlimani."

Bwana anatimiza ahadi Yake. Kanisa la Mwokozi lililorejeshwa linaendelea kuanzishwa kote ulimwenguni na ni chombo ambacho Mungu "atavikusanya kwake vitu vyote katika Kristo, vyote ambavyo viko mbinguni na vilivyo ko duniani."

Kazi ya Bwana katika siku za mwisho "ni jukumu ambalo limewavutia watu wa Mungu kwenye kila enzi; ni dhima ambayo kwayo manabii, makuhani na wafalme wamestaajabia; wametazamia kwa matamano ya shangwe kwenye siku ambayo sisi tunaishi; na wakiwa na shauku ya kimbungu na matarjio ya furaha wameimba na kuandika na kutoa unabii wa hii siku yetu."

Katika kipindi hiki kikuu na cha mwisho cha injili, "muunganiko wa vyote na mtimilifu na muunganiko wa pamoja wa nyakati, funguo na nguvu na utukufu utafanyika na kufunuliwa kutoka siku za Adamu hadi katika wakati huu uliopo. Na si hili tu, lakini vitu vile ambavyo havikuwahi kufunuliwa tangu kuwepo misingi ya dunia ... vitafunuliwa ... katika kipindi hiki cha utimilifu wa injili."

Nabii Joseph alifafanua zaidi, "Ibada zote na majukumu ambavyo vimekuwa vikitakiwa katika Ukuhani, chini ya maelekezo na amri za Mtukufu katika kipindi chochote cha injili, vitakuwepo katika nyakati za mwisho za utimilifu wa injili ... vikileta kuwezekana kwa urejesho uliozungumziwa kwa midomo ya Mababii Watakatifu wote."

Ahadi na Ushuhuda

Nimejaribu kufanya ufupisho wa sehemu za mambo ambayo ni ya muhimu sana na ya

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 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.

kitukufu “habari njema”mtu yoyote mahali popote ulimwenguni anaweza kupokea—ujumbe kwamba Bwana Yesu Kristo amerejesha injili na Kanisa Lake katika siku za mwisho.

Nina waalika nyote kujifunza kuhusu na kuthibitisha ujumbe huu. Ninaahidi kwamba watu “wanaojifunza kwa dhati ujumbe wa Urejesho na kutenda kwa imani watabarikiwa [kupitia nguvu ya Roho Mtakatifu] kupata ushuhuda wao wenyewe wa utukufu wake na wa dhumuni lake la kuandaa ulimwengu kwa ajili ya Ujio wa Pili ulioahidiwa wa Bwana na Mwokozi wetu, Yesu Kristo.”Unaposali kwa dhati kwa mategemeo ya vyote, kupokea na kutenda kulingana na jibu kutoka kwa Mungu, kama alivyofanya kijana Joseph Smith, uwezo wako wa kutambua na kuitikia ushuhuda huo wa kiungu utaongezeka.

Ninatoa ushahidi kwamba Mungu Baba wa Milele ni Baba yetu. Ninashuhudia na kutoa ushahidi kwamba Yesu Kristo ni Mwana Mpendwa wa Baba na Mwana Wake wa Pekee katika mwili. Yeye ni Mwokozi na Mkombozi wetu.

Kwa shangwe ninatoa ushahidi kwamba Baba na Mwana walimtokea mvulana Joseph Smith, na hivyo kuanzisha Urejesho wa injili ya Yesu Kristo katika siku za mwisho. Kitabu cha Mormoni ni ushuhuda mwingine wa Yesu Kristo na kina maneno ya Mungu. Mamlaka ya ukuhani ili kumwakilisha Mwokozi na kutenda katika jina Lake yapo tena duniani. Na kanisa la Yesu Kristo la Watakatifu wa Siku za Mwisho ni lile Kanisa la Kristo la Agano Jipya lililorejeshwa. Ninatoa ushahidi wangu wa uhakika kwamba vitu hivi vyote ni vya kweli katika jina takatifu la Bwana Yesu Kristo, amina.