

Chapter 4

Discourse of the Prophet Joseph Smith

Given around July 7th, 1834

High council organization meeting, Clay County, Missouri

This brief sketch of a discourse, given at the beginning of the organization of the Missouri High council, was taken by Frederick G. Williams, and copied into Minute Book 2 years later in 1838 by Levi Richards and Ebenezer Robinson. It was later edited and copied into the Manuscript History in August 1843 by Willard Richards, printed in the Times and Seasons February 1846 issue, and is now in volume 2 page 124 of the History of the Church.

After [singing and prayer] Brother Joseph Smith Jr. proceeded to give the council such instruction (relative to their high calling) as would enable them to proceed and minister in their office, agreeable to the pattern given heretofore. [He] also read to them the revelation speaking on the subject. He also informed them if he should now be taken away, that he had accomplished the great work which the Lord had laid before him, and that which he had desired of the Lord, and that he now had done his duty in organizing the High council, through which council the will of the Lord might be known on all important occasions in the building up of Zion, and establishing truth in the earth.