**Study Guide 12**

**UNIT 7: The Restoration of the Concept of Zion, Gathering of Israel, and Missionary Gatherings**

**D&C 29: 1-8, D&C 37-38, D&C 52:1-6; D&C 57-58**

**Additional Reading 7.1**

**Name: Ryan George**

Instructions: The purpose of the study guide is to direct your course of study of the Foundations of the Restoration, and assist you to focus on important salient points of your reading and study. The study guides are due on Learning Suite each class period by **8:59 am**. Your upload should only include the questions with your answers highlighted in yellow.

**Church History:**

**People (Go to JosephSmithPapers.org and search under Reference and People):**

**Places (Look at the Maps in your Scriptures):**

**D&C 29: 1-8 The Doctrine of Gathering**

1. What is Christ preparing his elect for (vs 8)?
   1. He is preparing his elect for the time when He will gather the righteous and when desolation will be sent forth upon the wicked.

**D&C 37-38 Reasons to Gather to the Ohio**

1. What was Joseph Working on and commanded to stop when D&C 37 was received **(Vs 1)?**
   1. He was working on a translation of the Bible.
2. List **at least two** of the many reasons the Lord gives this call to gather in the Ohio.
   1. Because of enemies
   2. For the sake of the saints and to preach the gospel there
3. What is the greater riches the Lord desires to give to the Saints? **(verse 18)** What do you personally think the symbolism stands for?
   1. A land of promise
   2. I think the symbolism stands for prosperity in terms of temporal and spiritual matters
4. Important message from Christ! While we are all part of a spiritual gathering (And local gatherings to our Wards and Stakes), there are things that the Adversary puts in our way to try and stop this gathering from happening. Verses 28-31 discuss the physical and spiritual wars that happen all around us, and they include a vital message from the Lord: *“I tell you these things because of your prayers; wherefore,* ***treasure up wisdom*** *in your bosoms, lest the* ***wickedness of men reveal these things unto you by their wickedness****, in a manner which shall speak in your ears with a voice louder than that which shall shake the earth; but if ye are prepared ye shall not fear” (vs 30).*

Notice how He doesn’t say wicked men will lie to you, but that they will reveal true things **by their wickedness** or in other words, with their own, evil agenda. In the space below, explain why this is such an important message for us to understand today, and how you have seen this (either in your own life, or your friends/family). With this in mind, what do you think it means “if ye are prepared ye shall not fear?”

* 1. Cunning wicked people usually don’t flat out lie, but they twist the truth to fit their agenda. This is often the case with anti-mormon literature. The kind that has all lies is easy for people to reject, but the kind that has mostly truth but with a spin is the kind that leads people out of the church. Its important that we understand this so that we are diligent in choosing credible sources and so that we are not led away by cunning opponents of the church.
  2. If we prepare ourselves for anything whether it be school, sports, etc. then we can have confidence in ourselves. The same goes for the gospel. If we are proactive in praying, reading scriptures, and finding answers to questions from credible sources, then we are building a foundation on the rock of Christ. However, if we shirk these responsibilities then we will be torn down by the storms of life and the storms that will come preceding the second coming of Christ.

**D&C 52:1-6**

1. Verse 4 has been an anthem to many Saints in these Latter-days. Have you experienced this promise fulfilled in your own life? If not, why do you think it has had such an impact on people?
   1. Yes I have experienced this in my life. I’ve noticed that when I am faithful to what I know to be true, then I am better able to receive divine guidance.

**D&C 57**

1. There are many different meanings for the word “Zion.” For this specific instance in the Doctrine and Covenants, what is “Zion” referring to?
   1. Zion is referring to Independence Missouri, a place the Lord designated for the saints to gather.

**D&C 58**

1. Verses 2-4 state, ***“he that is faithful in tribulation, the reward of the same is greater in the kingdom of heaven. Ye cannot behold with your natural eyes, for the present time, the design of your God concerning those things which shall come hereafter, and the glory which shall follow after much tribulation. For after much tribulation come the blessings.”***

--When have you experienced this principle, or are you in the middle of experiencing it now? If neither of these, how does hearing this promise give you solace for a future event when you are facing tribulations of your own?

* 1. I especially noticed this blessing on my mission. Often times we found our most solid investigators at the very end of the day at the last house we knocked on. After exhausting days of rejection the Lord blessed us after we went through the trial of faith.

1. As you read verses 19-23, what thoughts come to mind about the significance of the Lord’s words here? (Keeping in mind that the Lord can command rare exceptions to be made under specific circumstances)
   1. If we are faithful to God’s commandments then we will almost never have to worry about breaking the laws of the land. However, just because we keep the laws of the land doesn’t mean we are keeping the commandments.
2. Though in Old Testament and New Testament times the Lord has commanded the Gospel be preached only to specific groups of people, in **Verses 63-64** what is command in these Latter-days? How do you feel about this?
   1. The Lord commanded that the gospel be preached throughout the entire world.
   2. I feel privileged to live in a dispensation where everyone on earth is beginning to have an opportunity to here the gospel.

**7.1 “Come to Zion”**

1. Elder Christofferson begins by emphasizing early in his talk that “Zion is both a place and a people.”   
   He continues, **“The Lord called Enoch’s people Zion “because they were of one heart and one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them” (Moses 7:18). Elsewhere He said, “For this is Zion—the pure in heart” (D&C 97:21).**With this in mind, he teaches that today the Lord commands us to “*Go ye out of Babylon”* (D&C 133:7). With the help of this article, and your own understanding of what Babylon represents, what are some ways we can each individually escape Babylon and head towards “Zion?” Feel free to think generally of our modern world, or you can choose specific people/events.
   1. We need to distance ourselves from worldy things in order to head towards Zion. In Babylon everyone is focused on either possessions or themselves. In Zion everyone is focused on turning outwards towards each other or God. We can escape Babylon by focusing our attention on spiritual things as opposed to seeking for the things of this world.
2. Elder Christofferson says, “Zion is Zion because of the character, attributes, and faithfulness of her citizens.” What are the three ways listed we can each establish Zion in our own lives?
   1. Overcome envy and contention
   2. Live a holy life in accordance with the commandments
   3. Serve others and give to those in need
3. Relating to the above 3 things, he wisely counsels, “We cannot wait until Zion comes for these things to happen—Zion will come only as they happen.” He then gets specific with the topics of “Unity,” “Holiness,” and “Caring for the Poor.” From these three topics, select the main section that stood out to you the most, and summarize/explain why it was important to you.
   1. The main thing that stood out to me was caring for the poor. I tend to be selfish by nature with my possessions and I need to be better at putting off the natural man and giving to those in need. This is important to me because I know it is a true principle and that the Lord blesses those who give.
4. This last question is just an opportunity to share something that you are grateful for learning in today’s readings/SG’s. It can be anything that you felt was profound/insightful/new, or even a good reminder for your own life.
   1. I felt that it was insightful to learn about the Lords commandments for the saints to gather in Ohio and then in Missouri. I vaguely was aware about these events, but now I have read the specific revelations regarding them with the Lord’s reasoning and promises.