**Study Guide 14**

**UNIT 8: Kirtland Revelations: Restoration of the Plan of Salvation**

**D&C 76:1-79; 93:6-33**

**Additional Reading 8.1**

**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 76**

This Section is known as “The Vision.” It was used as a missionary tool by many of the early Missionaries, much like we use “The First Vision” today. In fact, President Wilford Woodruff said, ***“I will refer to the ‘Vision’ [in section 76] alone, as a revelation which gives more light, more truth and more principle than any revelation contained in any other book we ever read. It makes plain to our understanding our present condition, where we came from, why we are here, and where we are going to. Any man may know through that revelation what his part and condition will be”*** (Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Wilford Woodruff [2004].  
  
***It is much more expansive and insightful than we can do justice on a Study Guide or even a month of class, so feel free to study it outside of class at a slower pace sometime later ☺***

1. **Verses 10-19** explain how this “Vision” opened to Joseph and Sidney in the first place. One principle can we learn from their example of meditation over scripture is that as we prayerfully study and ponder the scriptures, we prepare ourselves to receive understanding from the Lord through the Holy Ghost. Have you ever experienced this for yourself? Explain.

* 1. They were translating the Gospel of John and were troubled by verse 29’s declaration that all will either go to heaven or hell after death. We can learn from this that the Lord rarely comes directly to us with new information unless we first put in the effort to read, ponder, and ask. I’ve noticed in my personal life that I have only been able to receive answers when I first study everything out in my mind and go to heavenly father with my decision.

1. **Verses 20-24** are packed with information. Name at least one thing these verses teach about Jesus Christ, which you especially grateful for, and why?
   1. This verse teaches us that Jesus continues to live today.
   2. I am grateful for this knowledge because it gives me confidence that I will also be resurrected one day with my family
2. **Verses 25-20** describe the Fall of Lucifer. List something you learned/is an important thing to remember from these verses
   1. This verse reminds us that Satan was an angel in God’s presence who rebelled. It goes to show that no matter how close we think we are to God it is possible to lose our way if we aren’t careful.
3. Rather than the dichotomy between Heaven and Hell, Mormons believe that revelation teaches there are 3 different factions/kingdoms within Heaven. In this section there are requirements listed for the Celestial, Terrestrial, and Telestial kingdoms. With regards to receiving the testimony of Christ for each of these kingdoms of glory, what are the paramaters (see vs. 51-53, 74-76, and 81-82)?

They could simply say “Valiency of testimony” but specifically:

* 1. Celestial = Those who received the testimony of Jesus and followed his doctrine.
  2. Terrestrial = Those who received not the testimony of Jesus in the flesh, but afterwards.
  3. Telestial = Those who received not the gospel of Christ, nor the testimony of Jesus

1. The above question could best be summarized by explaining that the Lord is the final judge, and one day we will each be placed in the Kingdom that corresponds to our personal “valiancy” (vs 79) and Testimony of Jesus Christ. Bruce R. McConkie explains,   
     
   ***“To be valiant in the testimony of Jesus is to believe in Christ and his gospel with unshakable conviction. … But this is not all. It is more than believing and knowing. We must be doers of the word and not hearers only. It is more than lip service; it is not simply confessing with the mouth the divine Sonship of the Savior. It is obedience and conformity and personal righteousness. … To be valiant in the testimony of Jesus is to … ‘endure to the end.’ (2 Ne. 31:20.) It is to live our religion, to practice what we preach, to keep the commandments” (“Be Valiant in the Fight of Faith”)***

--Think of someone you know who you would consider to be “valiant” in the testimony of Jesus Christ. What characteristics and actions demonstrate their valiance?

* 1. My wife is very valiant in the testimony of Jesus. She strives to keep the commandments and do her best to follow Christ’s example.

**D&C 93**

1. Who wrote the original “Record of John” as discussed in verses 6-18? **(Can’t just say “John” here…… be specific!)**
   1. John the Apostle
2. How did Christ eventually become like His Father? **(Verses 12-20)** Why is this a significant insight on Christ, and also important for each of us?
   1. He received the fulness grace for grace, a little at a time.
   2. This just goes to show that even Christ, being perfect, didn’t become like God all at once but it was a process. The same goes for us and we must not get discouraged when we make mistakes, but keep striving for God’s fullness.
3. What do **Verses 26-28** teach about what must we do to receive truth and light? How would you explain this principle to someone who had never heard it before?
   1. We must keep the commandments
   2. If we want something in life, we must pay the price to get it. When it comes to receiving God’s fullness, he doesn’t ask for money, just that we obey his commandments.
4. **Verses 21-23** (You can replace “ye were” with your own name and “was”) and **verses 29-33** explain that we existed in the beginning with God. While we lived with Heavenly Father and Jesus Christ in the premortal life, we were taught by the Father and the Son and had the opportunity to accept or reject truth.

--What is the given consequence given of rejecting this truth, or light? What are some ways in modern society you see people rejecting “light?”

* 1. It says those who reject this truth will be brought under condemnation.
  2. Today many people reject light by choosing to indulge in life’s pleasures as opposed to seeking spiritual things.

**8.1 King Follett Sermon/Discourse**

The King Follett Discourse is an address the Prophet Joseph Smith delivered in Nauvoo, Illinois, on April 7, 1844, at a general conference of the Church. It was a commemorative oration for a Church member named King Follett, who had died in an accident on March 9, 1844. He was not literally a King, that just happened to be his first name. The discourse may be one of the Prophet's greatest sermons because of its comprehensive doctrinal teachings. It was his last general conference address, delivered less than three months before he was martyred. It was not written down before Joseph gave it, but 4 scribes individually compiled notes throughout. The following is a shortened version of the full discourse. Key doctrinal topics in the sermon include the character of God, man's potential to progress in God's likeness, the Creation, and the tie between the living and their progenitors.

***This can be a hard read, and takes time to digest, so don’t beat yourself up if you feel like you aren’t completely comprehending everything within. You literally have a lifetime outside of this class to study and learn from it ☺***

1. In **“The Character of God”** section, Joseph says that the only way we can truly begin to understand ourselves and our potential, is to “comprehend the character of God.” After the **“God an Exalted Man”** and **“The Righteous to Dwell in Everlasting Burnings”** sections, return and report; what are you learning about God, his character, his path to godhood, etcetera?
   1. God was once a mortal like we are and is now an exalted man. God was not God from all eternity. He apparently lived on an earth like Jesus did, and Jesus laid down his life and took it back after the same manner the father did on his earth. It is our destiny to prove ourselves during our mortal lives so we too can one day be exalted like God.
2. Though Brother Joe goes through a variety of languages pertaining to the Bible, what does he say is the most accurate translation?
   1. German
3. Explain what the word “create” correctly translates to mean, and what the **“A Council of the Gods”** and **“The Immortal Intelligence”** sections teach about how we were all “created.”
   1. Create means to organize
   2. Our spirits are co-eternal intelligences with God. God did not create our spirits out of nothing. God found himself in the midst of spirits and intelligences less intelligent than He, and instituted laws that all may advance to His station.
4. In your own words, summarize what **“Our Great Responsibility”** is to those who have died before us? What benefit do we have of helping the other side receive sacred ordinances?
   1. Our greatest responsibility is to perform ordinances for our dead.
   2. They on the other side can’t be made perfect without us, be we also can’t be made perfect without performing the ordinances for them.
5. Here is one of those sections that people love to think about and dissect – according to Joseph, will mothers get to raise their children in eternity?
   1. Yes
6. Overall, what is your impression of this final large-scale public sermon that Joseph Smith gave just 2 and a half months before his martyrdom? Was this your first time reading it?
   1. It is a very comprehensive sermon and can be difficult to understand, but overall there is much truth that can be found in it. I had read it before once on my mission.