Endowed with Power from on High

The use of *endowments* by the LDS Church is assumed to reference the title. For some unknown reason, this bothers me. Perhaps I will find out in this article. This is how I learn by doubting everything until I understand. This is how reason works. Tradition too often lies and keeps us in darkness at a level we can accept. I desire so much knowledge that I cannot stop this process of logical reasoning. I will never assume because I must know.

[Doctrine and Covenants 20:8](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/20.8?lang=eng&clang=eng#p9)

8 And gave him power from on high, by the means which were before prepared, to translate the Book of Mormon;

This is not a revelation mirroring the voice of Jesus Christ. It is just assumed that Joseph Smith had the power to translate the Book of Mormon because of past revelations from the Angel Moroni and the Lord Jesus Christ. There is nothing essential with the use of *power from on high.*

[Doctrine and Covenants 38:32-38](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/38.32-38?lang=eng&clang=eng#p31)

32 Wherefore, for this, cause I gave unto you the commandment that ye should go to the Ohio, and there I will give unto you my law, and there you shall be endowed with power from on high;

33 And from thence, whosoever I will, shall go forth among all nations, and it shall be told them what they shall do; for I have a great work laid up in store, for Israel shall be saved, and I will lead them whithersoever I will, and no power shall stay my hand.

34 And now, I give unto the church in these parts a commandment, that certain men among them shall be appointed, and they shall be appointed by the voice of the church;

35 And they shall look to the poor and the needy, and administer to their relief that they shall not suffer; and send them forth to the place which I have commanded them;

36 And this shall be their work, to govern the affairs of the property of this church.

37 And they that have farms that cannot be sold, let them be left or rented as seemeth them good.

38 See that all things are preserved; and when men are endowed with power from on high and sent forth, all these things shall be gathered unto the bosom of the church.

The Lord uses *endowed with power from on high* twice in the above.Essentially it says that those who go to Ohio will receive the Lord's law. In addition, they *shall be endowed with power from on high.* Receiving the law is one thing but being *endowed with power from on high* indicates something special. We should look at the law as something more than the Ten Commandments otherwise what is the Lord giving that the saints do not already know. The Lord indicates that *certain men shall be appointed…by the voice of the Church, look to the poor and the needy, and administer to their relief.* Obviously, this is partial to the Law that Christ will be given. Then the Lord repeats *when men are endowed with power from on high and sent forth,* leads us to believe that it is more than a Law but some **power** that will help those that travel in their missionary work. If it comes from on high seems that it is something given that religious tradition has totally forgotten. The Law is only a preparation for receiving this *power from on high.*

[Doctrine and Covenants 95:8-11](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/95.8-11?lang=eng&clang=eng#p7)

8 Yea, verily I say unto you, I gave unto you a commandment that you should build a house, in the which house I design to endow those whom I have chosen with power from on high;

9 For this is the promise of the Father unto you; therefore I command you to tarry, even as mine apostles at Jerusalem.

10 Nevertheless, my servants sinned a very grievous sin; and contentions arose in the school of the prophets; which was very grievous unto me, saith your Lord; therefore I sent them forth to be chastened.

11 Verily I say unto you, it is my will that you should build a house. If you keep my commandments you shall have power to build it.

In Ohio, the saints are to build a house, which *I design to endow those whom I have chosen with power from on high.* If this is a *promise of the Father unto* the saints, what does *promise mean?* I did not know if I was going to write this so I looked up the word *promise.* Those references that mean what I am concerned about are listed below in order to separate this conversation.

[Ephesians 1:13](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/eph/1.13?lang=eng&clang=eng#p12)

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that, ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Is it the *Holy Spirit of Promise*? This is after they believed and this indicates that a law would have been given that was greater than the Mosaic Law. What is it that the first church would believe in order to receive the *Holy Spirit of Promise*?

[Doctrine and Covenants 88:3-4,75](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/88.3-4,75?lang=eng&clang=eng#p2)

3 Wherefore, I now send upon you another Comforter, even upon you my friends, that it may abide in your hearts, even the Holy Spirit of promise; which other Comforter is the same that I promised unto my disciples, as is recorded in the testimony of John.

4 This Comforter is the promise which I give unto you of eternal life, even the glory of the celestial kingdom;

…

75 That I may testify unto your Father, and your God, and my God, that you are clean from the blood of this wicked generation; that I may fulfill this promise, this great and last promise, which I have made unto you when I will.

The above was given in Ohio about six months before the Lord said to build a house in order for saints to receive *power from on high. The word promise* is used at least five times. The Lord says *I may fulfill this promise, which I have made unto you when I will.* The Lord was telling the early saints what they can obtain in the First Temple after they keep the Law of Jesus Christ which still must be given. Is this the *endowments* the current saints practice or something more? I will attempt to explain after more references to *power from on high.*

[Doctrine and Covenants 105:9-13](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/105.10-13?lang=eng&clang=eng#p8)

***9 Therefore, in consequence of the transgressions of my people, it is expedient in me that mine elders should wait for a little season for the redemption of Zion—***

***10 That they themselves may be prepared, and that my people may be taught more perfectly, and have experience, and know more perfectly concerning their duty, and the things which I require at their hands.***

***11 And this cannot be brought to pass until mine elders are endowed with power from on high.***

***12 For behold, I have prepared a great endowment and blessing to be poured out upon them, inasmuch as they are faithful and continue in humility before me.***

***13 Therefore it is expedient in me that mine elders should wait for a little season, for the redemption of Zion.***

This is were *endowed with power from on high* is associated with *a great endowment…as they are faithful and continue in humility before me.* What is faithful? It seems that *mine elders should wait for a little season for the redemption of Zion.* What does the redemption of Zion have to do with the elders being *endowed with power from on high?* This poses a problem if they are associated because in the following the Lord said:

[Doctrine and Covenants 136:18](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/136.18?lang=eng&clang=eng#p17)

18 Zion shall be redeemed in mine own due time.

This was to Brigham Young at Winter Quarters and was mention sometime before.

[Doctrine and Covenants 109:35-37](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/dc-testament/dc/109.35-37?lang=eng&clang=eng#p34)

***35 Let the anointing of thy ministers be sealed upon them with power from on high.***

***36 Let it be fulfilled upon them, as upon those on the day of Pentecost; let the gift of tongues be poured out upon thy people, even cloven tongues as of fire, and the interpretation thereof.***

***37 And let thy house be filled, as with a rushing mighty wind, with thy glory.***

This was a prayer from Joseph Smith but he says that it was given by revelation in writing it. The interesting part is the word *sealed* and the association with the *day of Pentecost*. The day of Pentecost was after the Savior ascended into heaven. Were these saints worthy of being endowed *with power from on high?* Does endowed mean to seal? If Joseph was correct, to be endowed means more than going through the current Temple endowments. It seems like it means to be *sealed* by the *Holy Spirit of Promise* or to receive the sure sign of salvation indicated in the current endowment ceremony.

It is difficult to explain the endowments that the LDS Saints have experienced because some would think that I am revealing secrets. I would like to cover some general concepts and compare them with scripture, some tradition, or just my personal view. It starts with the creation. In just referencing scripture, I will just list the first verse in Genesis.

[Genesis 1:1](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/ot/gen/1.1?lang=eng&clang=eng#p0)

1 In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.

I feel that Genesis is an allegory by using physical truths to represent spiritual concepts. *Heaven* becomes an allegory for the Kingdom of Heaven *and the earth* represents an allegory for the inhabitants of God. Tradition simply named our planet earth because of literal interpretation of scripture. The second part is the Adam and Eve Story. Very old polygamists before Joseph Smith believe the following:

[The Origin of the Garden of Eden Temple Ceremony] In place of figure-drawings upon a blackboard to illustrate scriptural incidents, he employed the more impressive mediums of flesh and blood. One of the favorite tableaux introduced by these fanatics was the personification of our first parents, as they were supposed to have appeared before fig-leaf aprons were in fashion. We have not found a description of the stage scenery used as accessory to this performance, but a part of the programme was for the disciples present, both male and female, to sit upon the floor in a circle while the ideal Adam, in the person of Cochran, and Eve, in the person of some chosen female, came into this extemporized "Garden of Eden". . . .[[1]](#endnote-1)

This comes from *Joseph Smith Fought Polygamy, Volume 1 -- Chapter 1.* Cochran was one who introduces polygamy in Maine before Joseph's first vision in Vermont. More will be said in the next chapter, but I prefer that the Garden of Eden story is allegorical for each of us in our preexistent state having the opportunity to choose the fruit of Good and Evil in mortal life or remaining for a time partaking the forth from of the Tree of Life having twelve manner of fruit. With the tree of knowledge of good and evil, we were all told that we will certainly die, but it will be a test to see if we can reach the Tree of Life while living. Our choice is to see if we can keep our second estate. It was better to die trying than to remain an isolated spirit or intelligence that was never created or maid because until life, we evolved. The Temple ceremony implies that we all represent Adam or Eve. Regardless of what you believe, the temple tells of the plan of salvation.

Without mentioning any detail, each patron goes through a process of making five covenants, the last of which are the Law of Chastity fallow by the Law of Consecration. Both pertain to the High Priesthood. The only points to remember are the *sign* and *sure sign*. These two represent the Higher Priesthood. First, this priesthood can give the Gift of the Holy Ghost, which is the first comforter that can promise us salvation but is based on our covenant to keep the commandments of Jesus Christ—the five covenants are in the temple ceremony. This is Jesus Christ Law. The sure sign is the second comforter, which is Jesus Christ himself—the Holy Spirit of Promise. In conclusion, the Temple process of Salvation is not complete until we receive the Holy Spirit of Promise. This is to be endowed from on high and to think the temple process completes this is basically a false doctrine. The Holy Spirit of Promise does not seal one by completing a Temple Endowment. The current endowment is Jesus Christ’s Law that we make a covenant to and not the power from on high—yet to be received if we keep all of the covenants. I can basically say that all current Mormons do not keep the Law of Consecration. How can they then receive the Holy Spirit of Promise?

Those who believe the Endowment ceremony has nothing to do with Jesus Christ should study the history of Christianity. Whether it was called the endowment ceremony or some other name, it began with Jewish Christians the left Jerusalem before or after its destruction in 70 AD. They formed the order of the Knights Templar. History tells us that they had at least two covenants. One was the law of chastity and the other was the covenant of poverty. History tells us they wore breeches—a garment worn by men, covering the hips and thighs. The word was formerly used as a loose garment.[[2]](#endnote-2) I say this only that it is the closest representation of the garments worn by LDS who make covenants in the Temple.

The Nights Templar grew to great power as a protector of the Saints moving from Jerusalem to other European cities. Eventually, they collected great wealth and loaned money to Kings and were responsible for the crusades helping many kings. They formed the first bookkeeping system and had such a large treasury that the King of France got permission from Rome to persecute them in order to gain access to their treasury. The Grand Master Jacques DeMolay suffered death very close to that of Jesus Christ. His death shroud was thought to be that of Jesus Christ. Hundreds of Knights Templar was burned at the stake. This was the darkest hour of Christianity and is manifest in the opening of the sixth seal in revelation.

[Revelation 6:12](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/nt/rev/6.12?lang=eng#11)

12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

The opening of the sixth seal would be about 1000 AD. It was the dark ages. How any Christian truth could survive that time should cause anyone to wonder. No one should expect truth to rise without the arm of the Lord.

The killing of the Nights Templar was so vast that many had to move north as far as Scotland. Some writers tried to say that the handshakes were created in order to identify themselves in Pubs. The truth is that out of this residue the Masons arrived and existed even to the time of America. Joseph Smith was a Mason and many seem to think that Joseph got his ideas from the Masons. If he did you have to explain why so much of this order survived since early Christianity. In Daniel’s prophesy of Christianity he refers to *she* and *he.*

[Daniel 11:6](https://www.lds.org/scriptures/ot/dan/11.6?lang=eng#p5)

6 And in the end of years they shall join themselves together; for the king’s daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall he stand, nor his arm: but she shall be given up, and they that brought her, and he that begat her, and he that strengthened her in these times.

*The king’ daughter of the south shall come to the king of the north to make an agreement.* The daughter of Christianity is the Roman Church. The king of the north is the Knights Templar. There was a constant agreement between Rome and the Grand Master of the Knights Templar. What is interesting is that *she shall not retain the power of the arm* (the priesthood); *neither shall he stand, nor his arm* (the priesthood)*: but she shall be given up.* Who can understand Daniel? Unless you know Christian history including that of the restored church, nothing will make any sense. If the Jews were taught the truth then they would accept Jesus Christ but Christians are in darkness. And every since the LDS Church was driven into the wilderness, they are in darkness also. Should not every Christian and Jew look for the redemption of Zion in America?

The LDS Church does not understand prophecy because all writers follow a literal or physical scenario in interpretation. The Church fails to teach prophecy today because of so many interpretations. Zion cannot be redeemed until a sufficient number can see. If we expect a current prophet of our time to see by revelation, how do you explain the expression, *without hand?* To say that without hand means revelation, then why do we not see the meaning of more prophecy? All we use are thoughts of Joseph Smith whom the Lord did not give the power to prophesy unless at times the Lord himself gave a prophecy, such as the civil war about thirty years before it happened. Perhaps the errors of Joseph Smith would help keep us in darkness until the time of the end. I have received no revelation and cannot understand why I see. The gospel was not the first to unravel. It took me eight years to unravel the theory of relativity and only about four months to explain the difference between Plato and Socrates. When I first wrote the Christian Folly, I was amazed that I could understand. I avoided some things because of ridicule and there were many clerical errors. My only explanation is the time of the end began at 2012 when I was working on the Christian Folly. I am beginning to believe that I will die before sufficient numbers will understand. I have published more on the Internet than in books.

The only way to talk about the Holy Spirit of Promise is to cover Marriage and Polygamy. We also can learn much about the Lord's method of spreading his gospel.

1. Joseph Smith Fought Polygamy, Volume 1 -- Chapter 1 [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. 1829 Dictionary of the English Language. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)