

THE CHURCH OF Jesus Christ

Now Is Our Time!

A Message from the Quorum of Twelve Apostles

“Our Brothers and Sisters of old did a marvelous work in telling the Restoration story and moving the Gospel forward. They have all gone to their rewards. Their work is done. They can do no more. Now is Our time to do the work!”

**An excerpt from an address by Apostle Paul Palmieri, General Church President,
to the Executive Committee of The Church, August 5, 2005**

The Quorum of Twelve Apostles believes this message is for the entire Church. Now is *Our* time to do the work. The Church has persevered and prospered since the Restoration in 1829. Many wonderful men and women have been used to keep the Gospel pure since then. We lovingly remember our first President, Brother William Bickerton, who organized the present Church in 1862. We are thankful for the wonderful brothers and sisters who followed and served as Presidents, Apostles, Elders, Teachers, Deacons, Deaconesses, Ladies Circle Presidents, MBA Presidents, Sunday School Teachers and dedicated members of The Church. They labored diligently to bring us to today. Their work is finished. They can do no more. Now is *Our* time to do the work.

We cannot dwell on the past and rest upon their labors. Now is *Our* time to stand up for the Restoration and tell the world of the hope that is within us. Now is *Our* time to tell the world what we believe and what lies ahead: *The Gospel was restored to the Gentiles and the Gentiles are to bring the Gospel to the Seed of Joseph (Native Americans); There will be a Peaceful Reign; The Choice Seer shall come forth out of the tribe of Joseph; The Choice Seer, the tribe of Joseph and the believing Gentiles will build the New Jerusalem and establish Zion on the land of America; Zion or the Peaceful Reign shall last for a long time; Christ will return to the earth—and much more!*

God spoke to the Apostles in a very powerful way as they met together on April 13, 2005, confirming that He has indeed restored His Gospel, that no other church possesses its purity and completeness, and that we have a commission to take this

message to Israel and to all who will listen. As they were discussing the seminars to be given to the Priesthood that week, *What We Believe* and *Faith and Doctrine*, Apostle Isaac Smith leaped to his feet and, with arm outstretched, uttered the word of The Lord: “Brothers, Thus saith The Lord, ‘They shall lodge among the monuments.’ ”

He then broke into singing: “An angel came down from the mansions of Glory and told that a record was hid in Cumorah containing the fullness, containing the fullness, containing the fullness of Jesus’ Gospel and also the covenants to gather his people. Oh, Israel, Oh Israel, in all your abiding prepare for the Lord when you hear the glad tidings.” As he sang, the others all joined in and even synchronized with his triple repetition of “containing the fullness” which is not the way the song was written. Clearly, the Lord’s intent was to emphasize that He has indeed restored His Gospel. What a prize He has given us!

One of the Brothers immediately recognized as scripture the phrase, “They shall lodge among the monuments.” In just a moment another found that it came from Isaiah 65:4. In context, starting with the first verse, they found a scripture declaring the Lord’s gift of His Gospel to a people who had not sought Him, along with His disappointment over others who had persistently observed offensive doctrine. Joy over God’s grace to His people filled the room as they progressed through the verses and reflected on God’s word to the Gentiles, to Israel, to the strangers who heed his word and to those who refuse it and lie dormant as bodies in a cemetery – among the monuments. They read on and found God preserving the blessing He had given and, ultimately, His prophecy of the Kingdom and the Peaceful Reign.

There is no doubt about what God is telling us: Now is *Our* time to tell the world the Gospel is Restored. Join with us as we enter a new era of time. Let us exemplify the words of 1 Nephi 13:37:

*And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost: and if
they endure unto the end they shall be lifted up at the last day,
and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb;
and whoso shall publish peace, yea, tidings of great joy,
how beautiful upon the mountains shall they be.*

Now is OUR time to do the work!

This is the first of a series of messages to The Church to reinforce various topics of our Faith and Doctrine and Vision for the Future. For more understanding of What We Believe please visit our web site to obtain resource and contact information:

www.thechurchofjesuschrist.com.