

Yes, Christ intends to establish the "Church of Christ" among the Gentiles that through their mercy Israel may obtain mercy." He will then as the Book says, "And I also will be in the midst." He will be there to call, appoint, and ordain his own Apostles." And then shall the powers of heaven come down among them. Then shall the work of the Father commence among all the dispersed of my people." Glorious day! Happy hour!! Not as formerly with Joseph or his son Joseph either in calling their Apostles when nothing but ceremony, sectarian ceremony was manifested. I am aware of what I say, and am responsible to God for my views. That gathering will be the Lord's--not man's, and it will be with power, and the saints will never be driven from their possessions. But they "shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; and they shall make gardens and eat the fruit of them. And I will plant them upon their own land, and they shall no more be pulled up, saith the Lord God. Amos 9:14."

Now in as much as you are a candid man, you will look at these things honestly and fairly. I have spent about two years since I retired from active business pursuits (sic) in carefully, studiously, and prayerfully reading, writing and reflecting upon the great work of the Last Days. My motto was and is "I will without prejudice or preconceived opinions embrace truth, and only truth." I have tried to see why so many thousands ran with Joseph into so many errors, and then followed Brigham Young to Salt Lake, and ran greedily into so many abominations!! And I think I've found the cause.

Now Joseph I will relate to you some history, and refer you to your own dear Mother for the truth. You will probably remember that I visited your Mother and family in 1847, and held a lengthy conversation with her, retired in the Mansion House in Nauvoo. I did not ask her to tell, but I told her some stories I had heard. And she told me whether I was properly informed. Dr. F. G. Williams practiced with me in Clay Co. Mo. during the latter part of 1838. And he told me that at your birth your father committed an act with a Miss Hill - a hired girl. Emma saw him, and spoke to him. He desisted, but Mrs. Smith refused to be satisfied. He called in Dr. Williams, O. Cowdery, and S. Rigdon to reconcile Emma. But she told them just as the circumstances took place. He found he was caught. He confessed humbly, and begged forgiveness. Emma and all forgave him. She told me this story was true!! Again I told her I heard that one night she missed Joseph and Fanny Alger. she went to the barn and saw him and Fanny in the barn together alone. She looked through a crack and saw the transaction!!! She told me this story too was verily true. Now I would not have told you this had it not been for one thing. You said in your speech at Amboy April 6th 1860, "I believe my father was a good man, and a good man never could have promulgated such doctrines." You referred to Polygamy. Now let me tell you my dear Sir. I asked your Mother particularly upon this point. She said, one night after she and Joseph had retired for the night, he told her that the doctrine and practice of Polygamy was going to ruin the church. He wished her to get up and burn the revelation. She refused to touch it even with tongues (sic). He rose from his bed and pulled open the fire with his fingers, and put the revelation in and burned it up. But copies of it were extant, so it was preserved. You say, "I have never believed it and never can believe it." Can you dispute your dear Mother? She related this to me, and will if you ask her tell you the same thing. It made a powerful impression on my mind at the time, and I've often reflected on it since. Now Sir suppose you could be convinced that your father not only believed in Polygamy but actually practiced it his individual self, then what would you say--and then do about it? Was he an adulterer so long ago, and still a "good man." You say, "I believe in the doctrines of honesty and truth." So do I. But I can't believe your father continued to be a religiously honest man. No sir. I can't for if I should I would have to believe your Mother a liar, and that would be hard for me to do, considering my acquaintance with her.

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You say again, "It is my determination to do right and let heaven take care of the result." What a glorious determination! I advise you to stick to it. That's been my mind for years past. I feel that I know I love the Lord Jesus, and the glorious principles of the Gospel. But I don't--I can't love falsehood, hypocrisy, and wrong doing. And I see so much wrong-doing in Joseph's official cases, I could not go with him, nor could I go with ONE who takes up the work where he left it. They practiced so much wrong that I quit them in 1836. And even now in looking back over the matter I am not sorry! only for the cause. In the spring of 1836 I took a mission south and returned the last of June; but only returned to find the Presidency to a great extent absolved in temporal things. They had gone to New York and run into debt about forty thousand dollars for goods--which was never paid!!! They brought on a kind of stuff they called French Cordial. It