

--from xerox copies of original holographs. Xeroxes are in L. John Nuttall Collection at (HDC) d 1269, Box 3. Originals may be at BYU. Two page MS.

"Correspondence" CHC

At a Meeting of the First Presidency, Apostles & Pres of stakes held at Pres Taylor's office S L City Oct 14, 1882 at 10 a.m.

The Revelation given through Pres John Taylor respecting Priesthood read to the Apostles--was read to the Meeting.

President Taylor referring to the Revelation upon Celestial Marriage said when this principle was first made known to us by Joseph Smith, it was in Nauvoo, and many of you will remember the place very well. We were assembled in the ~~my~~ office ~~xxxxxxx~~ over the brick store, there being present Bro B. Young Heber C Kimball, Orson Hyde & myself. Bro Willard Richards may have been present too, but I am not positive. Upon that occasion Joseph Smith laid before us there the whole principle pertaining to ~~that~~ doctrine and we believed it. Having done this Joseph felt, ~~as~~ as he said that he had got a big burden rolled off his shoulders. He felt the responsibility of that matter resting heavily upon him. Notwithstanding, however, that we received the principle & believed it, yet we were in no great hurry to enter into it. Sometime after this, I was riding out of Nauvoo when I met Joseph coming up. We met in the old graveyard--if any of you remember the place--and I moved to Bro Joseph and he moved to me, I think we were both on horseback, but of that I am not sure. Said he & "Pres Taylor stop" and I stopped. He looked me right in the eye, and spoke with all the solemnity that I ever heard him speak, said he: "Brother Taylor, that principle has got to be complied with forthwith; and if not, the Key will be turned." He had told us before that if this principle was not entered into, the Kingdom ~~was~~ could not go one step further. Well now that was a singular kind of a statement to make. Why? We had not made covenants that would reach unto [second page] eternity. We were married to our wives only until Death, and he said that if we could not enter into covenants that the Gods had entered into in the eternal worlds of what use was ~~was~~ our religion? We had got, it is true, the first principles of the Gospel--doctrines that were very good to live by, but would not ~~we~~ go high enough to be resurrected by. And in regard to the attitude of people against us now, why we have nothing of that kind to give up or sacrifice. No, they may ~~xxxxxxx~~ chop us into a thousand pieces, any one among us, we could not do it, and we would not do it. We I though I would refer to this at the present time. Afterwards, I had the principle made manifest to me definitely and positively so that I knew, and I have never had a particle of doubt since.

The 3 & 4 verses of the Revelation on the Eternity of ~~Marriage~~ the Marriage Covenant, See 132 D & C, having been read Pres Taylor said Now the question arises, would arise are men--The President of the Church, The Twelve & others--men holding holy Priesthood who do not enter into this order, fit to preside over the Priesthood and why. If a man is not ~~xxxxx~~ going to obtain an exaltation in the ~~the~~ celestial Kingdom of God is he fit to preside over the priesthood that are expected to go there? These are questions for us to ask.

The 5 & 6th verses were read. Pres Taylor said These are very important things and they bring these matters home to ^{us} ~~us~~. It is proper that we should comprehend these things. We are not at liberty to observe such principles as God imparts as pleases ourselves [and] to reject the others & then claim blessings from the hand of God.

Thursday June 21/83 [sic] The Council House wash burned this morning commencing at 12¹⁵ o'clock.

Sunday Oct 8/82 Elder Erastus Snow testified that Joseph Smith was the sixth angel spoken of in the Revelations; It was so recorded in the Kirtland Temple