

#36: “The desert shall ... blossom as the rose”

Monte F. Shelley, 25 Oct 2009

Quotes

- When my wife was asked what I do, she said “he serves as a bad example and is getting better with age.”
- Some of God’s greatest blessings come wrapped as undesirable problems.

Timeline of Events	
1847	<p>Jul 24. Brigham arrived in Salt Lake Valley.</p> <p>Jul 25. Brigham said no work on Sunday, no buying or selling land. Every man would get the land he could till.</p> <p>Jul 28. Brigham said, “Right here will stand the temple.”</p> <p>Jul 29. Some MB people arrived from Pueblo, CO. ~400</p> <p>Aug. Began surveying city with temple at the center.</p> <p>Old Fort built (Pioneer Park). Dammed City Creek, watered hard ground, plowed and planted 35 acres.</p> <p>Aug 16. Brigham and Apostles left for Winter Quarters. High council responsible for making and enforcing laws; levying taxes; giving rights to land, water, and timber;</p> <p>Dec 21. Twelve encouraged emigration to Salt Lake Valley</p> <p>Dec 27. New First Presidency sustained in Kanesville, IO by 1000 Saints in small building (40’ x 60’).</p> <p>Winter. Mild. Wolves, foxes, mice annoyed Saints. Cats were valued in fort.</p> <p>Settlers in Bountiful and other Davis county areas.</p>
1848	<p>Feb 2. “Upper California” became part of United States.</p> <p>Mar–Apr. Heavy rain caused leaks in sod roofs. Food was rationed. Saints ate crows, animals, thistle, bark, roots.</p> <p>May–Jun. Frost, drought, and crickets afflicted crops resulting in the miracle of the seagulls</p> <p>Sept. Brigham and leaders returned to Salt Lake Valley. First Presidency and council of about 50 men form provisional government. Land rights distributed fairly. No private ownership of water and timber.</p> <p>Winter. Heavy snow, very cold and windy. Food was scarce: surplus put in storehouse and rationed to all.</p> <p>Settlers in Ogden and other Weber county areas.</p>
1849	<p>Jan 2. Money: gold coins and gold backed paper.</p> <p>Feb 12. Rich, L Snow, E Snow, F D. Richards new apostles</p> <p>Mar. Saints established provisional State of Deseret with Brigham as governor. This lasted for two years.</p> <p>Spring. Discontent due to harsh winter, hunger, meager harvest, and “California fever” led a few to leave.</p> <p>Brigham and Heber C. Kimball prophecies.</p> <p>Fall. Perpetual Emigration Fund established</p> <p>Oct. E. Snow to Scandinavia, L. Snow to Italy, J. Taylor to France and Germany, F. Richards to England</p> <p>Settlers in Draper, Kaysville, Tooele, Provo, Manti, etc.</p>
1850	<p>Sept. Territory of Utah was established by US Congress.</p> <p>After 46 years of conflict/mistrust, Utah became a state</p> <p>GQ Cannon opened Hawaiian mission.</p> <p>Settlers in Alpine, AF, Lehi, Lindon, PG, SF, Springville...</p>
1851	<p>Parts of Pearl of Great Price published</p> <p>Settlers in Brigham City, Cedar City, Fillmore, Nephi. San Bernadino California.</p>
1852	<p>Aug. 106 elders called on missions to various countries.</p> <p>Doctrine of plural marriage publically announced.</p>
1853	<p>Apr 6. Salt Lake Temple cornerstones laid.</p> <p>Joseph F. Smith at 15 started 4 year mission in Hawaii (OH)</p>
1855	<p>Settlers in Las Vegas, Moab.</p>
1856	<p>5 handcart companies arrived. Martin & Willie companies.</p>

	<p>1857–1860. Five more handcart companies arrived. Utah applied for statehood. Politicians resisted it because of polygamy and Church control of government.</p>
1857	<p>Lies about Saints led Senator Douglas and others to speak against Saints. In 1843 Joseph said Douglas would aspire to be president but if he spoke against Saints he would “feel the weight of the hand of the Almighty.” He ran for president in 1860 and lost to Lincoln.</p> <p>Jul 24. Brigham learns of army coming to Utah. War alert</p> <p>Sept 11. Mountain Meadows Massacre</p> <p>Sept 15. Brigham declared martial law, forbade army entry</p> <p>Over 100 towns now settled</p>
1858	<p>Salt Lake Saints moved south, hid records and assets, covered Temple foundation.</p> <p>Jun. Peace commission sent to Utah and offered pardon.</p> <p>Jun 26. Army entered mostly deserted capital. Only a few Saints left ready to torch property if army didn’t leave it alone. Army set up Camp Floyd (Fairfield).</p> <p>Jul 1. Brigham said Salt Lake Saints could return home.</p>
1860	<p>Work on Salt Lake Temple began again.</p>
1861	<p>Apr 12. Civil War began in South Carolina.</p> <p>Jul. Army left Utah and sold surplus goods cheap.</p> <p>1861–1868. “Church wagon trains” brought Saints west.</p> <p>Oct. Telegraph line reached Utah</p> <p>Settlers in St. George</p>
1865	<p>Civil War ended.</p>
1867	<p>Salt Lake Tabernacle completed</p>
1869	<p>May 10. Connected two train lines at Promontory Summit, Utah, for transcontinental railroad.</p>
1877	<p>Apr 6. St George Temple dedication</p> <p>Aug 29. Brigham died. Twelve led Church for 3 years.</p>
1880	<p>Oct 10. John Taylor sustained as President of the Church</p>
1884	<p>May 17. Logan Temple dedication</p>
1888	<p>May 21. Manti Temple dedication</p>
1893	<p>Apr 6. Salt Lake Temple dedicated.</p>
1919	<p>Laie Hawaii Temple dedicated</p>

1. 1849 prophecies to discouraged Saints

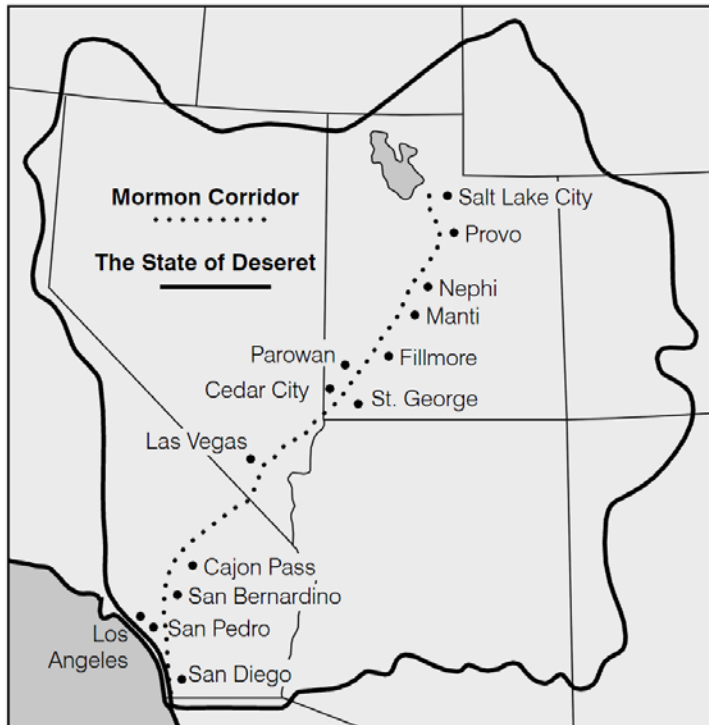
Heber C. Kimball: “Never mind, boys, in less than one year there will be plenty of clothes and everything that we shall want sold at less than St. Louis prices.” (JD 10:247)

Brigham: “God has appointed this place for the gathering of his Saints, and you will do better right here than you will by going to the gold mines. ... God has shown me that this is the spot to locate this people, and here is where they will prosper. ... As the Saints gather here and get strong enough to possess the land, God will temper the climate and we shall build a city and a temple to the Most High God in this place. We will extend our settlements to the east and west, to the north and to the south, and we will build towns and cities by the hundreds, and thousands of Saints will gather in from the nations of the earth. This will become the great highway of nations. Kings and emperors and the noble and wise of the earth will visit us here.” (TPC:BY 101; Gordon B. Hinckley, *Ensign*, May 2002 and Oct. 2001).

2. Construction of public works.

One day in ten and one-tenth of their production was donated. Public works included a wall around the Temple Block, building of a Council House, a small adobe church office building, public bathhouse at Warm Springs, an armory, and bowery on the temple block large enough to hold 3,000 persons. There was also a Church Farm of 800 acres created for producing food for the poor.

3. Colonization of Great Basin



4. Missionary work in various countries

England, Denmark, and Switzerland were the most productive missions. About half of Utah settlers in 1800s from Great Britain.

5. Civil War

Joseph: “Thus saith the Lord concerning the wars that will shortly come to pass, beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina, which will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls. ... For behold, the Southern States shall be divided against the Northern States” (1832, D&C 87:1, 3). In 1843 Joseph said that the bloodshed that would begin in South Carolina “may probably arise through the slave question” (D&C 130:13).

John Taylor 1861: “We have been driven from city to city, from state to state for no just cause of complaint. We have been banished from the pale of what is termed civilization, and forced to make a home in the desert wastes. ... Shall we join the North to fight against the South? No! ... Why? They have both, as before shown, brought it upon themselves, and we have had no hand in the matter. ... We know no North, no South, no East, no West; we abide strictly and positively by the Constitution.” (CH, 381)

Brigham 1862: Had we not been persecuted, we would now be in the midst of the wars and bloodshed that are desolating the nation, instead of where we are, comfortable located in our peaceful dwellings in these silent, far off mountains and valleys. Instead of seeing my brethren comfortably seated around me to-day, many of them would be found in the front ranks on the battle field. I realize the blessings of God in our present safety. We are greatly blessed, greatly favored and greatly exalted, while our enemies, who sought to destroy us, are being humbled. (JD 10:38; CH 382)

6. Salt Lake Temple Construction

On 6 Apr 1853 the cornerstones were laid. Brigham said: I scarcely ever say much about revelations, or visions, but suffice it to say, five years ago last July, I was here and saw in the Spirit the temple not ten feet from where we have laid the chief cornerstone. I have not inquired what kind of a temple we should build. Why? Because it was represented before me, I never looked upon that ground, but the vision of it was there. I see it as plainly as if it was

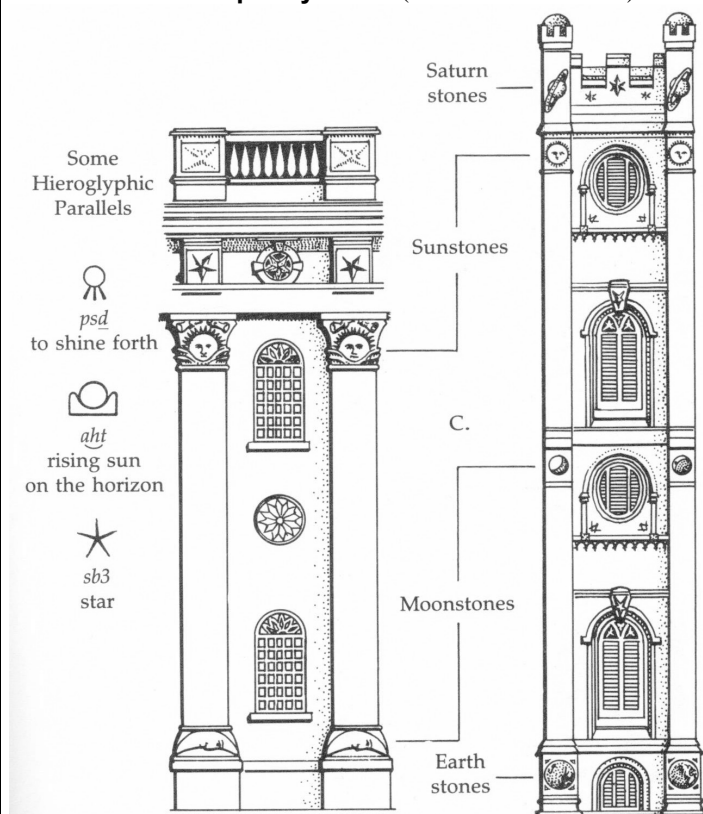
in reality before me. ... It will have six towers, to begin with, instead of one. Now do not any of you apostatize because it will have six towers, and Joseph only built one. It is easier for us to build sixteen, than it was for him to build one. (DBY, 410)

Brigham drew a sketch in the architect’s office, and said: “There will be three towers on the east, representing the President and his two counselors; also three similar towers on the west representing the Presiding Bishop and his two Counselors; the towers on east the Melchisedek priesthood, those on the west the Aaronic priesthood. The center towers will be higher than those on the sides and the west towers will be a little lower than those on the east end. The body of the building will be between these and pillars will be necessary to support the floors.”

Wilford Woodruff: “Before we came to the Rocky Mountains, I had a dream. I dreamed of being in these mountains, and of seeing a large fine looking temple erected in one of these valleys which was built of cut granite stone. ... Whenever President Young held a council of the brethren of the Twelve and talked of building the temple of adobe or brick, ... I would say to myself, ‘No, you will never do it;’ because I had seen it in my dream built of some other material.” (JD 21:299–300; Boyd K. Packer, *Ensign*, Aug 1993)

Brigham: “I want to see the temple built in a manner that it will endure through the Millennium. This is not the only temple we shall build; there will be hundreds of them built and dedicated to the Lord. ... And when the Millennium is over, ... I want that temple still to stand as a proud monument of the faith, perseverance and industry of the Saints of God in the mountains, in the nineteenth century” (*Discourses of Brigham Young*, 395).

7. Salt Lake Temple Symbols (not discussed before)



Heavenly bodies (1) testify of the creation and God’s power to keep them in their orbits, (2) are timekeepers of days, months, and years, (3) are used for signs and wonders, (4) provide different degrees of light.

Earth stones: The earth is “the footstool of God” (Isa 66:1).

Moon stones: These stones show the different phases of the moon. The phases remind us of birth, life, death, and resurrection.

Sun stones: The sun is a symbol of celestial glory and beings.

Saturn stones were on the 1854 drawing above the sunstones.



Star stones: 5 and 6 point stars. 6→fixed stars; 5→morning stars

Cloud stones: On the east center tower are two “clouds and descending rays of light.”

Circle in Square: The 1854 plan also showed a circle in a square symbol. Hugh Nibley said a circle represented the circumference of the heavens and a square the four quarters of the earth. When joined they represent the temple where heaven and earth combine or meet.



Big Dipper: High on the west center tower are seven 6 point stars representing big dipper that helps people find directions. The pointer stars on the temple actually point to the North Star.

Boyd K. Packer: Symbols are chiseled on the granite stones which depict the sun, the stars, the planets, and the earth. To be sure that the stones representing the phases of the moon were accurate, Elder Orson Pratt, a competent astronomer, set up an observatory on temple block. He could open the slats in the roof to study the heavens with a three-inch lens. The symbolism is not mysterious. The clouds with rays of sunlight shining through are immortalized in Elder Parley P. Pratt’s great anthem: “The morning breaks, the shadows flee; Lo, Zion’s standard is unfurled! The dawning of a brighter day ... Majestic rises on the world.” The Big Dipper, with the pointers ranging to the North Star, means that the lost may find their way by the aid of the priesthood. The east towers represent the Melchizedek Priesthood and the west towers the Aaronic Priesthood. These and all the other symbols were carefully drafted by the architect, Truman O. Angell, under the watchful eye of President Brigham Young. (*Ensign*, Aug 1993, 7)



Statue niches: “Two flights of stairs lead up to two sets of large wooden doors on the east and west end of the temple. Beside each set of doors is a granite niche. For a number of years the statues of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, which are now located on Temple Square, occupied the niches on the east end of the building.”

Doors: The doors resemble those built for Solomon’s temple (1 Kgs 6:31–35; 7:50). It is covered with flowering vines and floral designs suggesting the Garden of Eden. After Jacob saw the Lord in a vision, he said, “This *is* none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven” (Gen 28:17).

Beehives: There are 24 beehives on the exterior of the temple. The Jaredites brought honey bees with them to the promised land (Eth 2:3). Moses brought the Israelites to a promised “land flowing with milk and honey.” (Ex 3:8)

Keystones: Every arch has a keystone reminding us that the Book of Mormon is the keystone of our religion.

East and West Center Spires



Dedication Plaque is on the east center spire. "Holiness to the Lord" is the first phrase on the plaque. The next line is "The House of the Lord." Joseph and Brigham said at cornerstone ceremonies that the temple would be a place for the Lord "to lay his head" (Luke 9:58)

While speaking face to face with Joseph and Oliver in the Kirtland temple, the Lord said "I have accepted this house, and my name shall be here; and I will manifest myself to my people in mercy in this house. ... I will appear unto my servants, and speak unto them with mine own voice, if my people will keep my commandments, and do not pollute this holy house." (D&C 110:7)



All-Seeing Eyes are seen on the east and west center towers at the level of the sunstones. This symbol used anciently to represent God's ability to see all things. Each eye is a right eye and looking out from behind a veil. "The Lord looketh from heaven ... upon all the inhabitants of the earth" (Ps 33:13-14). God's "eyes are upon all men" (D&C 1:1) "Mine eyes are upon you. I am in your midst and ye cannot see me; But the day soon cometh that ... the veil of darkness shall soon be rent" (D&C 38:7-8). The rays of light radiating around the oval remind us of one who is "filled with light" and "comprehendeth all things" (D&C 88:67).



Alpha and Omega Scroll is at the level of the moonstones. It says "I AM ALPHA AND OMEGA"

Handclasp: The handclasp represents the "right hands of fellowship" (Gal 2:9) and indicates covenant making. Matthew Cowley said it reminded him of the marriage covenant. The oval has no beginning or end. The rays of light suggest celestial glory.

8. Brigham's Legacy

Near the end of his life, Brigham described the result of his labors saying, "The peopling of this Territory by the Latter-day Saints of about 100,000 souls; the founding of over 200 cities, towns and villages inhabited by our people, which extend to Idaho in the north, Wyoming in the east, Nevada in the west, and Arizona in the south, and the establishment of schools, factories, mills and other institutions calculated to improve and benefit our community. All my transactions and labors have been carried on in accordance with my calling as a servant of God. I know no difference between spiritual and temporal labors. God has seen fit to bless me with means, and as a faithful steward I use them to benefit my fellowmen-to promote their happiness in this world in preparing them for the great hereafter. My whole life is devoted to the Almighty's service. ... I leave to futurity the judgment of my labors and their result as they shall become manifest." (Preston Nibley, *Brigham Young*, 492)

Hymn #5: High on the Mountain Top

Text: Joel H. Johnson 1850/1853. Original title: "*Deseret*"

In that day ... the Lord ... shall set up an ***ensign** for the nations, and shall ... gather together the dispersed of Judah. (Isa 11:11-12)

* HEB flag, banner, standard, signal. On July 26 1847 a yellow bandanna was waved on a cane at the top of Ensign Peak. Soon "Old Glory" was raised there on a flagpole.

In the last days ... the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the ***top of the mountains** ...and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall ...say, ... let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: (Isa 2:2)

* Two common definitions of Ute or Utah are "top of the mountains" and "people of the mountains."

1. High on the mountain top
A banner is unfurled.
Ye nations, now look up;
It waves to all the world.
In Deseret's sweet, peaceful land,
On Zion's mount behold it stand!
3. His house shall there be reared,
His glory to display,
And people shall be heard
In distant lands to say:
We'll now go up and serve the Lord,
Obey his truth, and learn his word.