

### Salvation for the Dead

This doctrine presents in a clear light the wisdom and mercy of God in preparing an ordinance for the salvation of the dead,<sup>1</sup> being baptized by proxy, their names recorded<sup>2</sup> in heaven and they judged according to the deeds done in the body.<sup>3</sup> This doctrine was the burden of the scriptures. Those Saints who neglect it in behalf of their deceased relatives, do it at the peril of their own salvation. The dispensation of the fullness of times<sup>4</sup> will bring to light the things that have been revealed in all former dispensations; also other things that have not been before revealed. He shall send Elijah,<sup>5</sup> the Prophet, &c., and restore all things in Christ.<sup>6</sup>

President Joseph Smith then announced: “There shall be no more baptisms for the dead, until the ordinance can be attended to in the Lord’s House;<sup>7</sup> and the Church shall not hold another General Conference, until they can meet in said house. For thus saith the Lord!”<sup>8,a</sup> (Oct. 3, 1841.) DHC 4:424-426.

### Do Not Accuse the Brethren

I charged the Saints not to follow the example of the adversary in accusing the brethren,<sup>9</sup> and said, “If you do not accuse each other, God will not accuse you. If you have no accuser you will enter heaven, and if you will follow the revelations and instructions which God gives you through me, I will take you into heaven as my back load. If you will not accuse me, I will not accuse you. If you will throw a cloak of charity over my sins, I will over yours—for charity covereth a multitude of sins.<sup>10</sup> What many people call sin is not sin; I do many things to break down superstition, and I will break it down”; I referred to the curse of Ham for laughing at Noah,<sup>11</sup> while in his wine, but doing no harm. Noah was a righteous man, and yet he drank wine<sup>12</sup> and became intoxicated; the Lord did not forsake him<sup>13</sup> in consequence thereof, for he retained all the power of his Priesthood, and when he was accused by Canaan,

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1. D&C 128:5,8.
  2. D&C 128:1-2.
  3. 1 Pet. 4:6; Alma 5:15.
  4. Eph. 1:10.
  5. Mal. 4:5-6.
  6. Eph. 1:10.
  7. D&C 124:28-29.
  8. Ex. 9:13; Isa. 28:16; D&C 21:7.
  9. Rev. 12:10.
  10. 1 Pet. 4:8.
  11. Gen. 9:22.
  12. Gen. 9:21.
  13. Gen. 9:20-27.

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<sup>a</sup>The reason for the commandment from the Lord discontinuing baptism for the dead in the Mississippi River is found in the fact that the font in the Nauvoo Temple had been prepared for these ordinances. It was only in the days of poverty and when there was no font in a Temple, that the Lord granted baptism for the dead outside of his holy house. November 8, 1841, the font in the Nauvoo Temple was dedicated and from that time forth until the exodus baptism for the dead in the Temple in Nauvoo was performed.