Lesson 27
Doctrine and Covenants 101; 103; and 105

For more understanding of these sections, read about Zion’s Camp in a history of the Church.

Doctrine and Covenants 101

Verse 2: What brought on the Missouri Saints’ persecution? (Read some histories of the times to see what kinds of transgressions the Saints may have been guilty of. Also see verse 6.)

Verse 3: What does “I will own them” mean?

When is the day when the Lord will come to make up his jewels? What does that metaphor mean?

Verse 4: What does this verse tell us about verses 11 through 15 of section 98? There the Lord says to the persecuted Saints in Jackson County, Missouri, that he was going to test them to see if they would abide in his covenant. Is this a short way of saying the same thing? In what ways might the Missouri Saints’ experience have been like that of Abraham? How were the promises that the Lord made in section 98, and the assurances that he gave there, fulfilled?

Verse 5: How does this verse help us understand D&C 98:11–15?
How do those verses in section 98 help us understand these verses?

Verses 7–8: What counsel had the Lord given the Missouri Saints that they ignored? (How, for example, had he commanded them to obtain land in Missouri and how did they get along with their neighbors?)

Verses 24–34: Why is/was this description of the millennium important to the Saints? (See verses 35 and 36.)

Verse 37: Is the word soul being used here as it is defined in D&C 88:15, as the spirit and body? Or, does it refer to only the spirit? What does this verse mean if we read the word soul to mean both spirit and body? To mean only spirit?

Verse 38: What does it mean to seek the face of the Lord? What is the point of that metaphor?

Verses 41–42: What was the essence of the transgression of the Saints in Missouri?

What does it mean for a person to exalt himself? What’s wrong with it? How does it bring abasement?

How do we abase ourselves without groveling or implying that we are worthless in the eyes of God? What does abase mean in this context?

Verses 44–62: How does this parable describe what happened in Missouri as well as what will happen? Does it also describe anything else, something in our own lives perhaps?

Verses 68–75: What are the principles by which the Saints were to obtain an inheritance in Missouri? What does that imply for us?
Verses 76–78: How were the Saints who had been persecuted to seek redress? What might that say to us about our own difficulties? What does this say to some of those today who feel that the government or their community has been unfair to them? Why does the Lord want us to act in this way? (See the end of verse 78.)

Verses 81–91: How does this parable relate to the principles taught in D&C 98:23–31, where the Saints are given instruction in how to respond to their persecutions?

Verse 92: Why should we pray that our persecutors will listen to our pleas? Why not pray, instead, that God will wreak vengeance on them or that he will give us a chance to do so?

 Doctrine and Covenants 103

Verses 1–2: To what is this revelation a response? What will it teach those to whom it is addressed?

What is the significance of the phrase “in my own time”?

Verses 3–4: Why has the Lord allowed the persecutions?

Verses 8–10: Why might the Saints fail to prevail?

Verses 15–16: What does it mean to say the redemption of Zion must come by power?

Apostates have often used verse 16, claiming it refers to them as one “like Moses.” What does D&C 107:91–92 teach about this verse?

Verses 17–18: How would you explain these two verses? To what does “at the first” refer? Of what significance is
it (in this context) that the members of the church are of the seed of Abraham?

How was the church in bondage? Are we in bondage today? What does “by power and a stretched-out arm” mean? (Compare Exodus 6:6; Deuteronomy 5:15; Psalm 136:10–12; and Ezekiel 20:33.)

**Verses 24–28:** What do you think those hearing this revelation expected to happen when they got to Missouri?

**Doctrine and Covenants 105**

This revelation was given just as the crisis between the Saints and the people of Jackson County, Missouri, came to a head. A storm had turned the Jackson County militia from their attack on Zion’s Camp. Consider that context as you read the revelation and ask if this is what you would expect the leader of a group of more than two hundred angry, armed men to say.

**Verses 1–5:** What does it mean to establish Zion? How does the establishment of Zion bring about the redemption of the Lord’s people? From what does it redeem them?

When the Lord speaks of transgressions, what does he mean when he says he is speaking of “the church and not individuals”? Has the church sinned in some way that the individuals in the church have not? What follows seems to speak of the transgressions of individuals.

What sign of the evil of the Saints does the Lord mention? What does that have to do with redemption?
What kind of unity does the law of the celestial kingdom demand of us? (In the D&C that phrase appears always to mean the law of consecration.) Why can’t Zion be redeemed without that particular kind of unity? Do we have that unity today? If not, what would we have to do to get it?

What are the principles of the law of the celestial kingdom, in other words, of the law of consecration? How do we learn those principles? How do we carry them out?

Why is obedience so important to Zion? What does the Lord mean by the word obedience? What does he expect of an obedient person?

**Verses 3–19:** Many of those in Zion’s Camp left the church afterward, disappointed that Joseph’s prophecy hadn’t come to pass and convinced he was not a prophet. How do you square this revelation with the revelation that ordered them to go to Missouri and redeem the land for the Saints? In other words, what could you have said to those who were disappointed?

**Verses 23–24:** The Saints to whom these verses were addressed had been forced to leave Jackson County, and many of their homes had been burned. What would this advice mean to them? What kinds of problems had the Saints had with their neighbors in Jackson County?

**Verses 25–27:** Of what is this a prophecy?

**Verses 30ff.:** How did the Lord want the Saints to acquire the land of Jackson County? Has that changed?

**Verse 31:** What will be required before Zion can be redeemed? (See also verse 11.)
Verses 35–36: What is the point of these verses?

Verses 38–39: What does sue mean in verse 38? What is an “ensign of peace”? How do we proclaim peace?