Jesus Christ commanded the Prophet Joseph Smith to build a temple in Kirtland. It would be the first temple in the latter days.

After the new temple was finished, Joseph Smith said a prayer to dedicate it. In his prayer, he asked the Lord to accept the temple as His holy house (see D&C 109:4).

A week later, Jesus Christ appeared to Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the temple. He said: "For behold, I have accepted this house, and my name shall be here; and I will manifest myself to my people in mercy in this house" (D&C 110:7).