

and my <sup>c</sup>father and my mother; my brother <sup>d</sup>Alvin, that has long since <sup>e</sup>slept;

6 And <sup>a</sup>marveled how it was that he had obtained an <sup>b</sup>inheritance in that kingdom, seeing that he had departed this life before the Lord had set his hand to <sup>c</sup>gather Israel the second time, and had not been <sup>d</sup>baptized for the remission of sins.

7 Thus came the voice of the Lord unto me, saying: All who have died <sup>b</sup>without a knowledge of this gospel, who would have received it if they had been permitted to tarry,

shall be <sup>c</sup>heirs of the celestial kingdom of God;

8 Also all that shall die henceforth without a knowledge of it, who <sup>a</sup>would have received it with all their hearts, shall be heirs of that kingdom;

9 For I, the Lord, will <sup>a</sup>judge all men according to their <sup>b</sup>works, according to the <sup>c</sup>desire of their hearts.

10 And I also beheld that all <sup>a</sup>children who die before they arrive at the <sup>b</sup>years of accountability are <sup>c</sup>saved in the celestial kingdom of heaven.

### SECTION 138

A vision given to President Joseph F. Smith in Salt Lake City, Utah, on October 3, 1918. In his opening address at the 89th Semiannual General Conference of the Church, on October 4, 1918, President Smith declared that he had received several divine communications during the previous months. One of these, concerning the Savior's visit to the spirits of the dead while His body was in the tomb, President Smith had received the previous day. It was written immediately following the close of the conference. On October 31, 1918, it was submitted to the counselors in the First Presidency, the Council of the Twelve, and the Patriarch, and it was unanimously accepted by them.

1-10, President Joseph F. Smith ponders upon the writings of Peter and our Lord's visit to the spirit world; 11-24, President Smith sees the righteous dead assembled in paradise and Christ's ministry among them; 25-37, He sees how the preaching of the gospel was organized among the spirits; 38-52, He sees Adam, Eve,

and many of the holy prophets in the spirit world who considered their spirit state before their resurrection as a bondage; 53-60, The righteous dead of this day continue their labors in the world of spirits.

ON the third of October, in the year nineteen hundred and eighteen, I

5c D&C 124:19.  
TG Family, Eternal.  
d JS—H 1:4.  
e 1 Cor. 15:20.  
6a D&C 138:25.  
b TG Salvation for the Dead.  
c Isa. 11:11;  
1 Ne. 22:12 (10-12);  
Jacob 6:2.  
TG Israel, Gathering of;  
Israel, Restoration of.  
d Luke 24:47;  
John 3:5 (3-5);  
2 Ne. 9:23;

Ether 4:18 (18-19);  
D&C 76:52 (50-52);  
84:74.  
TG Baptism, Essential.  
7a Hel. 5:30.  
TG Revelation.  
b 1 Pet. 4:6;  
2 Ne. 9:26 (25-26);  
Mosiah 15:24;  
D&C 29:50.  
c Heb. 9:15 (14-15);  
D&C 76:70 (50-70).  
TG Exaltation;  
Salvation for the Dead.  
8a Alma 18:32;

D&C 6:16.  
9a Rev. 20:12 (12-14).  
TG God, Justice of;  
Judgment, the Last.  
b TG Good Works;  
Justice.  
c D&C 64:22 (22, 34).  
TG Agency;  
Motivations.  
10a TG Children.  
b D&C 68:27 (25-27).  
c TG Salvation of Little Children.

ON THIS SPECIAL 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, I INVITE YOU TO THOROUGHLY AND THOUGHTFULLY READ THIS REVELATION. AS YOU DO SO, MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU TO MORE FULLY UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE GOD'S LOVE AND HIS PLAN OF SALVATION AND HAPPINESS FOR HIS CHILDREN.



# PRESIDENT M. RUSSELL BALLARD

ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

## THE VISION OF THE REDEMPTION OF THE DEAD

In October 1918, 100 years ago, President Joseph F. Smith received a glorious vision. . . . He sat in his room pondering Christ's atoning sacrifice and reading the Apostle Peter's description of the Savior's ministry in the spirit world after His Crucifixion.

He recorded: "As I read I was greatly impressed. . . . As I pondered over these things . . . , the eyes of my understanding were opened, and the Spirit of the Lord rested upon me, and I saw the hosts of the dead" [Doctrine and Covenants 138:6, 11]. The full text of the vision is recorded in Doctrine and Covenants section 138. . . .

Among the many things President Smith saw was the Savior's visit to the faithful in the spirit world after His own death on the cross. . . .

In the vision, President Smith saw his father, Hyrum, and the Prophet Joseph Smith. It had been 74 years since he had last seen them as a small boy in Nauvoo. We can only imagine his joy at seeing his beloved father and uncle. He must have been inspired and comforted to know that all spirits retain the likeness of their mortal body and that

they are anxiously awaiting the day of their promised resurrection. The vision revealed more fully the depth and breadth of Heavenly Father's plan for His children and Christ's redeeming love and the matchless power of His Atonement.

On this special 100th anniversary, I invite you to thoroughly and thoughtfully read this revelation. As you do so, may the Lord bless you to more fully understand and appreciate God's love and His plan of salvation and happiness for His children.

I testify that the vision President Joseph F. Smith received is true. I bear witness that every person can read it and come to know it is true. Those who do not receive this knowledge in this life will surely come to know its truthfulness when everyone will arrive in the spirit world. There, all will love and praise God and the Lord Jesus Christ for the great plan of salvation and the blessing of the promised Resurrection when body and spirit will once again be reunited, never to be separated again.

→ See the full address at [conference.lds.org](http://conference.lds.org)